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OVERSTREET'S Price Update

- Completely Revised
- Latest Hot Titles
- Regional Market Reports
- "What's Hot & What's Not" Reports
- Fully Illustrated

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ATTENTION

HISTORICAL NEWS **DEALERS** HISTORICAL NEWS

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GARY DOLGOFF
Brooklyn Navy Yard
Bldg. 280/Suite 608/609
Brooklyn, NY 11205
PH: 718-596-5719

OR: Let's Trade

Publisher
Overstreet Publications
780 Hunt Cliff Dr. N.W.
Cleveland, TN 37311
(615) 472-4135

Editor & Co-Author
Jon R. Warren

Board Of Special Advisors
Jerry Barletta • Dennis Behrend • Barry Branvold • Tom Caulfield • John Chruscinski • Art Clem • Curt Collins • Richard Colossi • Rich Conley • Keith Contarino • Chris Foss • Richard & Wayne Gifford • Alan & Marsha Giroux • Dan Gregory • Howard Harris • Brian Hicks • D. W. Howard • Robbie Lewis • Sean Linkenbach • Tom Mattevi • Bob Nastasi • Dan & Dolores Ptaszek • Robert Pilk • Rob Prince • Steve Sibra • Bob Smith • Roger Smyth • Seth Spivak • George Suarez • Kirby Tardy • Bill Townsend • Cliff Weikal • Lyn Winter

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THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

GENERAL INFORMATION

About Pricing - The prices shown in this guide represent an honest and responsible evaluation of current market values. The prices represent an average of dealer retail prices compiled from data supplied by our Board Of Special Advisors. Prices often vary widely from region to region because supply and demand varies. Therefore, each seller should determine prices based in part by using this guide, and also by understanding his/her regional supply and demand factors.
When buying collections, dealers will normally pay 1/4 to 3/4 of this Guide value based on inventory needs and local market conditions.

PRICING LOWER GRADES

Prices listed in this Guide are for comic books in NEAR MINT condition. The value of a comic in a lower grade can be determined by multiplying the price shown by the appropriate percentage as shown below using the SAME PERCENTAGES for that issue as shown in The Official Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide:

Near Mint =	100%
Very Fine =	75 - 85%
Fine =	40 - 50%
Very Good =	20 - 30%
Good =	10 - 15%

OVERSTREET GRADING GUIDELINES

Please note: Age is not a factor when grading comic books. A 30 year old comic book should be graded with the same criteria as a 1 year old comic book.

Mint- Like new, perfect in every way.

Near Mint - Almost flawless, only the slightest, most unobtrusive signs of wear, noticeable only upon very close inspection. Page color should be creamy to white.

Very Fine - Excellent, superb condition with insignificant wear and possibly a very minor, light crease. No browning. Very nearly mint.

Fine - Tight, sharp copy with significant wear, but still flat, clean and shiny. Any chips, tears or flakes should be carefully described. No writing except perhaps a light arrival date on the covers. Only a minor, light crease is allowed. No brown pages. Pleasing in appearance without much general wear.

Very Good- Obviously a used copy with most original printing lustre and gloss gone. Some discoloration is permitted, but no soiling. Some signs of wear and minor markings, but none that deface the cover. No chunks missing, no tape or heavy writing. Any other minor defects such as chipping or flaking should be described.

Good- A worn and heavily read copy with no pages missing. Soiling, creases, minor tears or splits, color flaking, etc. is permissable. A sound and complete copy that is very worn.

SYMBOLS USED

The following symbols will be used to designate various market activity:

+ The issue or issues have gone up in value since last Bulletin.

- The issue or issues have gone down in value since last Bulletin.

H (HOT) Indicates a title or issue that is currently in high demand.

Much has happened in the comic book market since our last report back in December. Rumblings and early indications have become full-blown trends during the last six months. Silver-Age keys in TOP GRADE have literally gone through the roof! Some of the most dramatic price changes in recent Price Guide history are reflected in this issue. Folks, you won't be seeing price increases of 20-40% on expensive (over $1000) books again for a long time. But, believe it or not, these increases could only be the beginning if the market holds its current pace.

We aren't going to tell you how hot Batman and The Joker are, nor about the highest price we've seen reported for Amazing Spider-Man #129. We're not going to because literally every advisor in the following market reports has something to say on those topics. So, we will let the individual advisors bring you up-to-date on what has been happening.

We get literally tons of mail from people all over the world sending in their comments and corrections. We appreciate it and would like to give special thanks in this and future columns to people who were extra helpful. This time, we'd like to send special thanks to Mark Derrick of Chattanooga for his notes and corrections to this latest update. Also, thanks to Jason Ewert for pointing out that Amazing Spider-Man #134 & 135 were the second appearances of The Punisher and, as such, were priced too low. We had never realized the importance of these two issues until now. We agree that $13 for what, in effect, is Punisher #2 was too low. Prices have been adjusted upward. If you have letters of comments, advice, or plain criticism, please write to us at the Overstreet Publications address listed on the title page of this issue.

A couple of folks have written in to criticize our advisors a little bit so I thought I would give them an open forum here. One fellow complained that too much "soap-boxing" was going on in a column that is supposed to be for Market Reports. Under the heading "What's Hot - What's Not", he says, should be reports of activity in the market - not complaints about the high cover price of comics or criticism of the editorial quality of certain comics, or cries for grading reform. Maybe he is right. Our job in writing about What's Hot and What's Not is to do just that. Or is it? Should we leave the open forum job to the pages of Comics Buyer's Guide or do our readers enjoy the open forum format of this column? Write and let us know. On another critical note, Stan - of Las Vegas writes "The guys from San Antonio, Texas that are advisors have stated how hard it is to get Iron Man #1 in NM/M and how they have a waiting list with people willing to pay 150% of guide price. Well, they sure must exaggerate! Because I sent them a letter offering to sell my collection of Iron Man #1-70 all in NM/M. They never answered my letter. I think guys like this are trying to drive the price of the books up, don't you?". Well, Howard and Rich, what's the story? Are you blowing hot air, or did you not receive his letter, or what? Stan, I'd bet that if you had written to all of the advisors instead of selecting just one, you would have sold that set of Iron Man....

Another interesting letter came as a result of our mention of obscure 1970's titles. Todd Hohbein of Lincoln, NE wrote, "Almost immediately after reading your comments in the Winter Bulletin, I dug out part of my collection. I collect mostly Silver Age and newer DC's, but I love to get oddball Marvels from the 70's. I try very hard to find them, but often some titles like "Night Nurse" seem non-existent. I really do agree some of these deserve higher values, and should be recognized by dealers as hot. (well, I don't know about hot, Todd). Just like the late 60's DC obscure titles, they too are just as strange and different. Granted, they're not the best written things around, but they often have breathtaking covers, and as you stated should be valuable to collectors, because of their short runs. So, I thought I'd help you find these comics, and I've made up a well-researched list of titles:

Slightly Obscure: Shogun Warriors (1978), Machine Man (1978), Human Fly (1977), Eternals (1976), Ms. Marvel (1977), Son Of Satan, Werewolf By Night.

Obscure: The Cat (1972), Red Wolf (1972), 2001 (1976), Godzilla (1977), The Monster Frankenstein, Marvel Supernatural Thrillers.

Very Obscure: Black Goliath (1976) - can't find ANY #1!; Omega The Unknown (1975) - found only two copies of #1 in VF and NM; Skull The Slayer (1975) - found only ONE copy of #1 in VG! SO OBSCURE IT'S RIDICULOUS CATEGORY: Lil' Pals (1972)

I found only one copy of the whole run of this funny animal title, it was #1 in NM!! challenge anyone to get the whole 1-5 set! Man From Atlantis (1978) - amazingly, this title lasted seven issues. I found a few #1's, none better than F, and also obtained issues 2-5, but no 6 or 7. Adventures On The Planet Of The Apes (1975 - found 2, 3, 7, 8 in NM, have not seen #1 or any of the remaining 8. SPOOF (1972 - Do ANY of the five issues even remain in America? I have found none!" Thanks for the note, Todd. We can say that at least one set of Spoof exists, because We have a set in our collection. But we don't have any Lil' Pals... wanna trade? So you can see, collecting comics can be fun without spending megabucks or speculating on the next "hot" issue. We're just waiting for someone to start an obscure Marvel and DC club so we can join up and earn a brownie button! In the meantime, guess we'll have to start adding these titles back into the Update after having removed them years ago to save some space. Our vote for most obscure Marvel set is Marvel Classics Comics #1-36, try getting a complete set of those babies!

This issues represents the first of our "all Update" supplements to the Official Overstreet. We have consolidated the Bulletins and Updates into what we feel was the better of the two formats - the Updates. In the future, all Overstreet supplements will be in this format, with the full-color covers and the photos inside. Our readers were unanimous in their preference of the Update format over the Bulletin format. So, even though the price is a wee bit more, we offer what we feel is the better of the two products to our dedicated readers. Thanks for supporting us in this change, and...

Thanks for reading!

Jon R. Warren

REGIONAL MARKET REPORTS

George Suarez
New England Comics
P. O. Box 1424
Brockton, MA 02403

NEW COMICS: The hottest character in comics currently is Batman, period! New issues of Batman are selling phenomenally well, particularly when DC runs "within series", which the company does (wisely) in virtually every issue of Batman and Detective. We're noticing huge upsurges in demand when Batman makes guest appearances in other titles, especially if cover-featured. Despite the fact that we've heard DC is overprinting such comics by much larger than normal amounts, they continue to sell out at wholesale levels almost instantly. Good examples are Starman #9 & #10 with sales well above those to be expected for the "average" DC title. We at NEC are well aware of this Batman sell-out phenomenon because we receive many orders from retailers for new Batman comics in our retail for sale ads, almost as soon as the material is published. What makes this Batman resurgence even more incredible is that as of this writing, the Batman Movie hasn't even arrived yet. The level of demand for Batman product after the movie opens is hard to imagine. Is there a limit to Batmania in 1989? Probably not—at least at the beginning. We suspect that many retailers will under-estimate the demand, despite all the hype, and find themselves scrounging for some of the scarcer product—like the PVC figures from Hong Kong—rather soon.

Marvel's hottest characters are Punisher, Wolverine and Spider-Man. Mutants remain strong with Excalibur the fastest-moving team book. Despite considerable speculation by some retailers, we're noticing supplies of recent back issues on these titles are already drying up. Particularly tough are Pun-

isher #7 - #1, Wolverine #1 & #2, Excalibur #1 - #3, and Spider-Man #298 & #300. Punisher Annual #1 and the mildly surprising Alf Annual #1 are also real tough.

RECENT BACK ISSUES: Batman is #1! Tops on the hit parade are The Killing Joke, The Cult, Batman: Years One and Two and The Kraven Saga—all of which are impossible to keep in stock. Even the second and third printings of The Killing Joke fly out the door. Dark Knight remains a solid seller even after three years. Dark Knight #1, formerly everywhere, is now actually becoming a hard-to-find commodity. We sell them as fast as we get 'em at $45.00 per copy. Note that lots of scratched up copies exist (particularly those with white streaks on the back cover) and most fussy fans turn these down flat. Ordinary back issues of Batman and Detective, never stocked very deeply by retailers or wholesalers, are drying up as fast as rain on the desert. Realistically, almost any Batman comic should be priced at minimum $1.50 with Detectives just a little lower.

Death In The Family issues have finally settled down but they continue to sell extremely well at prices that strike us as too high. We market the first three at $20.00 a piece and the last issue at $8.00. We know of dealers who charge up to $40.00 a piece. #429 is very common and no one should be charging more than $10.00 for them as wholesalers still offer the comic at $3.50 - $4.00. We've seen it running in the $7 - $8 area on Todd appearances: Batman #366 & #368. Both sell well at $12 - $15 per copy.

Any work by Marvel artists Todd McFarlane and Arthur Adams is in big demand. We feel that McFarlane's work in Amazing Spider-Man is going to push the sum of issues from #298 - up into a class somewhere between Byrne X-Men and Miller Daredevils in the next few years. Issue #298 is a really hot comic and #300, being an anniversary issue as well, is equally in-demand. McFarlane Hulks continue to sell very well despite his departure from the title we could tell cases of early work like McFarlane's Infinity Inc.'s and All Star Squadron #47, if we had them! Adams isn't quite so hot since he's a bit less exposed, but X-Men Annuals #9 & #10 are solid sellers.

Anything with Punisher or Wolverine in it sells incredibly well. We were dumbfounded to find that many retailers had sold out of Punisher War Journal issues #1 & #7 (centering both heroes) in the first week. Dumbfounded because we were sure these issues would be overbought by everyone resulting in a huge glut on the market. Didn't happen. Distributors sold out of them very quickly, and demand has pushed the two comics up to the $3 - $4 a piece range already. Amazing!

Other hot recent back issues: Aliens, Catwoman, Excalibur (including the Special 1st print), Havok & Wolverine, Justice League Europe, Punisher & Punisher LS, Punisher War Journal, The Tick (OK—so you say we're prejudiced since NEC Press publishes The Tick. But read what other retailers say here...), Web Of Spider-Man, What If (no surprise to us—we never understood why it was cancelled to begin with!), What Th—?!, Wolverine—both series.

Other recent titles showing lesser demand include: Animal Man, Damage Control, Fred Hembeck, Hawk & Dove — both series, Hellblazer, New Titans (since Perez came back).

Post-Byrne Superman retains a surprisingly good level of sales. Perez's addition to the title is sure to propel already decent numbers to quite strong ones.

Groo remains a special phenomenon: new issue sales are not very impressive but the title remains one of our better back issue sellers.

Dead or dying old-timers include: Alpha Flight, Fantastic Four, The 'Nam (we'll be surprised to see it reach the end of the war).

Risen From the Grave (sort of): Slightly resuscitated this spring are

G. I. Joe and Transformers, though it's hard to believe these titles ever sold as well as they did a couple of years ago...

Independents: Independents are falling on hard times this summer, that much we must say. The only ones maintaining "heat" are those with some kind of movie or toy tie-in or some gimmick. Notably hot inhops include Aliens, Predator, Flaming Carrot, Robotech Sentinels and The Tick (really!). Concrete still sells well but would be a lot stronger if it came out more often. We're seeing slowly shrinking demand for such old staples as Love & Rockets, Airboy, Miracleman and most First titles. We bought extra on the recent Grimjack #61, which had a very impressive no-logo cover. Sales remained no better than average. We're noticing that certain long-running indy titles have sales levels which are engraved in stone; they don't drop much but nothing short of a Wolverine guest appearance will make their sales go up. From our point of view, indy books like Total Eclipse were complete duds. Not only did TE fail to stimulate sales of other Eclipse titles, but the lateness of each issue was so bad that when the comics finally did arrive, nobody cared anymore. A running gag in our stores concerned how Total Eclipse, a limited series scheduled for Summer 1988, was completed in April 1989!

Rock 'n' Roll Comics #1, the unauthorized Guns 'n' Roses "biography" is a real sleeper hit since, surprisingly, most retailers missed the boat completely on it. NEC pushed strongly on the comic, despite the relatively low production standards which led other retailers to give it a pass. Our reasoning was that this kind of music tie-in would appeal strongly to armies of hard rock fans—regardless of quality, and we were right. This kind of item is a good argument to read the Comics Buyers Guide closely since most of the distributors provided very little advance info on it.

Uncensored Mouse #1 & #2, probably the only issues we'll ever see after Disney slapped Eternity with a lawsuit, have the potential to be collector's items. With the legions of Disney collectors in the world, in addition to comic collectors, we expect demand for these interesting items to far outstrip the demand. #1 sells briskly for us at $5.00 and we hear of double-digit prices from other retailers already.

Older Back Issues: The Big Five, the hottest selling recent high-ticket back issues are: Amazing Spider-Man #129, Incredible Hulk #181, Punisher MS #1, Captain America #100, Longshot #1 - #6, and Iron Man #1.

Spidey #129 (first Punisher) is an astonishingly hot comic. We receive at least 5 calls a day for this book and could sell as many mint copies as we could get at $150.00 a piece. $200.00 is not an outlandish price in perfect condition. We attended a comic show recently where a dealer bought a very rough copy from a competitor at $10.00 and put it out at $25.00. A third dealer bought that copy and placed it on his table at $40.00. At show's end it was still there. However, he remained confident that he would sell it soon back in New York. This barely "good" copy had changed hands between dealers twice at sizeable markups each time! While later Punisher Spider-Man issues sell well, they don't come close to #129. The second appearance, #134, commands a price in the $20.00 range, but really doesn't move all that well at much above that figure. We often find ourselves pining for the days when we had cases of Punisher MS #1 put away. Now we buy them all day long at $20.00 a piece and can't find enough. A truly hot comic!

Silver Age: Batman back issues are hot all the way back to the Golden Age. In particular strong demand are issues featuring Joker appearances—particularly Joker covers. We haven't seen the price explosion yet, but watch out for the Joker title from 1975-76. On top of featuring this year's most popular villain, the comic is relatively obscure, and even moderate interest by back issue collectors could drive prices sky-high.

The hottest Silver Age comics are DC's and almost anything in high-grade. We notice very strong demand for minor DC titles. This occurs particularly right after DC revives yet another forgotten Silver Age hero. Shortly after Animal Man returned, we noticed intense interest in the short run of Strange Adventures in which the character first appeared. Similarly with Adventure Comics, after the Black Orchid limited series began. Lesser Marvel titles, like Tales Of Suspense and Tales To Astonish, are being re-discovered by budget-minded collectors interested in older comics. These books in high-grade remain great bargains at current Guide values, and we expect them to move into the $10.00 range very quickly. We expect similar

movement in older issues of long-running titles like Thor, Hulk and Captain America. It's still possible to buy 15-year old issues of Hulk for less than two bucks a piece in high grade. Does anyone really expect that situation to continue for very long?! Hey, fans, buy them at bargain prices while you still can . . .

A Few Notes On The Tick: As we mentioned above, in order to avoid conflict of interest charges, we'll let other retailers comment on how well The Tick sells for them. All we'll provide here is some historical information to clear up a few errors in recent price guides: The Tick first appeared in issue #14 of NEC's in-house Newsletter. This item is very scarce but we have no idea what the back issue market is on it right now. The character subsequently appeared in issues #15 & #16. The first comic book appearance of The Tick was in Special Edition #1, serially numbered and limited to 5,000 copies. The Tick Special Edition #2 was serially numbered and limited to 3,000 copies. After that came the Regular Edition of #1, which reprinted the Special Edition with a few editorial changes. The regular #2 reprinted the Special #2 with the same kind of minor changes. There were no more Special Editions beyond #2. There have been clearly marked second printings of both #1 & #2. In The Tick #2 (2nd printing), NEC Press provides a complete rundown of The Tick's publishing history, including repros of all covers. In judging whether a back issue price on a copy of The Tick #1 or #2 is reasonable, obviously, it is critical to determine exactly which edition is being offered! Each edition is clearly identified on the cover or the inside front cover.

Sean Linkenbach
Atlanta, GA

Market Report

It is amazing how the market has exploded in the last six months. The demand was first for key issues in gem condition, then it started to include the keys in any shape, when those were gone collectors started grabbing any #1's they could find, now it's just any book that it twenty plus years old - and not just Marvel and DC, Dells, Gold Keys, and Charltons all move at one speed - FAST!

NEW ISSUES

DC - BATMAN, BATMAN, BATMAN! The demand for Batman and Detective is amazing, the Dark Knight leads both new and back issue sales with no end in sight. Demand for Batman is increasing sales on related titles also, Catwoman was a complete sellout, and JLA sales are up. Non-Batman DC's that still are hot are JLE, Green Arrow, Flash, Sandman, Legion '89, and the Dungeons & Dragons title. Demand for Gilgamesh II was also much stronger than we had anticipated. Demand on the Superman titles has been up recently along with Animal Man and the Perez Titans books.

MARVEL - Even with all the Batman hoopla Marvel continues to hold the lead in new book sales led by the mutant titles - X-Men, X-Factor, Excalibur, Wolverine and New Mutants. All three Spiderman titles remain hot with McFarlane issues being most in demand. Punisher remains hot, with sales on War Journal leading that of his normal series. Captain America continues to increase in sales, this is the first time I've seen demand for back issues drive up the demand for new issues also. The Byrne-led Avengers and She-Hulk continue to be Hot, as does Iron Man and the Silver Surfer. Daredevil, Thor, and the new What If series has steady demand. On the move and to watch in the future are Fantastic Four, What the —?, and Doctor Strange.

INDEPENDENTS - Aliens is the clear leader here, this sells as much as any regular Marvel or DC issue. Uncensored Mouse was also a complete sell-out. Demand for the three old mainstays (Cerebus, Flaming Carrot, and the Turtles), continues to be good, while Appleseed and Fright Night are enjoying increased demand. With the exception of the Gladstones and Concrete most other indies move along at a snail's pace.

BACK ISSUES

Marvels - High grade and key issues continue to lead the way, but as more and more people discover that Spiderman #6 is just as hard to find in NM as #1, they are willing to pay Mint guide for a VF and offer over guide for anything better. Captain America #100 is the most asked for book and demand on it is so strong that we are paying more for the book now than we were selling it for six months ago. Spiderman is the hottest series right now with any copy of #1 - #30, #50 and #129 selling instantly. Key issues of Fantastic Four also move well, we recently sold a FF #5 in VF for $240, and a #48 in F for $25. Hulk #1, #102 and #181 are all hot, as are all early Hulk appearances, especially TTA #59 - #67, #93, #100 and #101. Increased demand on all issues of Strange Tales especially #110 and #135. Early TOS are still hot, most notably #39, #58, #59, and #63. We recently sold a VF copy of #58 for $35. Early JIM, Avengers, X-Men, Iron Man and Silver Surfer all continue to be strong sellers.

DC - Following right along in Marvels' footsteps, possibly even more room for growth here than in the Marvels because of the relatively lower prices on most of the key issues as compared to Marvel. Batman and Detective continue to lead the way with Batman #100, #171, #200 and Detective #233, #265, #267, and #298 emerging as the only real Silver Age keys in the series and demand is very strong on these issues. The second string heroes such as Aquaman, Atom, and Hawkman continue to be good movers, with a Hawkman #1 in VF recently selling for $55. Green Lantern and Flash are very hot with a GL #1 in F moving quickly at $275. Adventure #256, #260, #271, and all Legion issues move well, as well as Brave & Bold #28 - #30, #34, #54, #57 and of course all Batman issues.

Others - Gold Keys and Dells remain hard to find and easy to sell - lead by Star Trek, Dark Shadows, and almost all early Hanna-Barbera and TV-Movie titles. Recent sales include a Dell Giant #48 NM for $90, Star Trek #1 VG for $30 and a VF/NM copy of Space Ghost #1 for #65.

Tropic Comics
Florida

May, 1989

The one word you need to know this selling season is BATMAN. Yes, Batmania has descended upon the world again and anything with the caped crusader's name or picture on it is selling like crazy. The madness is just beginning and will come to a frenzy with the release of the Batman movie in June. With the thousands of different Bat items coming out all through the summer us Bat fans are going to have a ball. (We'll be broke but happy.) As for the comics, back issues of Batman & Detective have surpassed X-Men as our best seller. The ten cent and early twelve cent ones are selling briskly at 1 11/2 to 2 times guide in nice shape! The Neal Adams and Marshall Rogers issues are impossible for us to keep in stock. The special issues like Death In The Family, Dark Knight, The Killing Joke are all still selling quickly, and we see no end in sight. Aside from Batman, the two other really hot books this past season were oddballs. The Uncensored Mouse came out with little fanfare, but then made the national news because of Disney's lawsuit against the people who put it out. This brought even non-collectors out to find the book because of the notoriety. We had literally hundred of calls from people looking for it, but we had sold out the day it went on sale. The last one we had went for $10.00. The other really hot book was Rock & Roll Comics #1, featuring Guns & Roses. We expected some extra interest from music fans, but were unprepared for the bombardment of calls we got for it. It also is selling in the $10.00 range.

Now to the specific companies.

MARVEL: Key Silver Age books in VF or better condition are selling for way over guide because of their scarcity. Several dealers (us included) will pay 1 1/2 to 3 times guide for these books. Actual sales we have had for example are: Amazing Fantasy in NM for $2,000.00, Tales Of Suspense #39 VF for $500.00, Captain America #100 M for #65.00, and we just picked up a mint X-Men #1 which we will sell shortly for

$1,600.00. General back issue sales are still led by X-Men with #140 to present leading the pack. #94 and Giant Size #1 still sell well, but #95 - #139 are pretty slow. The other Mutant books, Excalibur, X-Factor, New Mutants and Alpha Flight are also doing well. All Spiderman titles are hot, with Amazing in the lead. The McFarlane issues from #298 - present are very hard to keep in stock as are any issues before #30. The titles that started in the late 1960's such as Iron Man, Captain America, Submariner, Hulk and Thor are very hot. (Atleast the early ones). Cap #100, Thor #126, Hulk #102 and Iron Man #1 are selling for much more than guide, and are getting tougher to find in nice shape. Also, the predecessors of these books, Tales Of Suspense, Tales To Astonish, Journey Into Mystery are also flying out of our stores, with key issues setting record prices. Some of these include Tales Of Suspense #57 with the first appearance of Hawkeye, and #58 where Captain America begins. Also hot are the early annuals of all the major titles. Because of their relatively low prices we feel these will be good investments for the future. Back issues of Avengers and Fantastic Four have been slow with the exceptions of the first 20 issues and the Silver Surfer appearances in FF. Sales on G. I. Joe and Transformers have picked up slightly, but are still not strong.

The John Byrne books, She-Hulk and West Coast Avengers are doing well as is the Hawk and Wolverine mini series "Melt Down". The rest of the line is selling pretty well with the exceptions of the Shadowline books which we feel will soon get its richly deserved demise.

DC - As we mentioned before, Batman titles are way ahead of any DC book as sellers. Certain staff titles are hot as the mid sixties superhero titles like Hawkman, The Atom, Metal Men, and the Neal Adams books of the late sixties. The early appearances of the above characters are setting record prices. Golden Age and $.10 Silver Age DC books are our best selling older books. Sales on Justice League and Green Lantern are not what they once were, but early Silver Age Flash comics are hot. The seventies issues of the above are dead and buried. Adam Strange issues of Mystery In Space are real slow, but the Sci-Fi issues and the horror books like House Of Mystery and House Of Secrets are becoming popular again. Superman titles including the ones with his friends and relatives like Jimmy Olsen and Lois Lane are pretty slow except for Golden Age and early issues.

As for the newer stuff, Gilgamesh II is a big success as was the Catwoman mini series. (Another thank you to Batman). Other new books that are doing well for DC are Animal Man, Captain Atom, The TSR books, Hawk & Dove, Legion '89, and Titans. The slow ones include Cops, Blackhawk, Gammarauders and Wanderers, Mister Miracle and New Gods have not sold as well as expected, though the original series still sell very well. Justice League and Justice League Europe are doing great with JLE #1 selling out of all our stores in less than a week. JLA #28 was a huge success for us down here, due to Kevin Maguire putting our own William "Big" Vogel on the cover. Green Arrow, Spectre, Legion, Flash and the rest are all holding their own, but not setting the world on fire.

INDEPENDENTS: AARRGH! These things just do not sell! Of course there are a few diehards out there that want them, but as a retailer we find them a lot more trouble than the money we make from them. Even the "biggies" like Cerebus & TMNT are not selling very well. Of course, certain titles still get hot for a brief time, but interest usually dies quickly. The ones that are moving now include: Faust, Scimidar, Tick and Black Kiss. On most independents we just order what we have advance orders for. We are tired of getting stuck with books that we will never sell.

In closing, we just want to wish everyone a happy Batsummer; and to all you pale northerners, c'mon down and get yourselves some sun!

Richard Gifford, Wayne Gifford
Co-Owners: Rich's Comic Shoppe
2441 North Verity Parkway
Middletown, OH 45042
(513) 424-1095

MARKET REPORT
May, 1989

What's selling? That's the question on the minds of most collectors awaiting the next big hitter. With this report we shall try to appease them. The new issue market is continually thriving due to the upswing in demand for new and innovative ideas. Prestige Format comics and Hardcover editions are prime examples of new ideas. There are many people out there that don't regularly read comics who will come into your store and purchase a copy of THE CULT, THE KILLING JOKE, or perhaps even a YEAR ONE HARDCOVER soon after the release of the BATMAN movie. These are the types of items that make excellent additions to any bookshelf, and consequently will attract those who do not collect comics. In other words, these items sell well. Other items which will sell include the following: anything featuring a mainstream DC or Marvel character that is drawn by McFarlane or Adams, Wolverine guest appearances, Punisher guest appearances, Batman special projects, and of course, anything by a big name such as John Byrne.

But what is it that has caused the recent upswing in new collectors? This is caused by the following:

1. T. V. MOVIES AND BIG SCREEN PROJECTS: Although most die hard comics fans consider these movies featuring comic characters to be blasphemous, the attention comics are receiving as a result of these pictures is excellent. PUNISHER, HULK, SWAMP THING, and BATMAN are all coming in the very near future. How many people will go to see these movies and think, 'hey, I bet the comics with these guys are pretty good too.'? When this happens it then falls on the shoulders of a good manager and an equally good sales staff to show these would be collectors the higher quality items. After this is done they should be hooked and you've just increased your sales.

2. MEDIA ATTENTION: How many people have seen titles such as NAM, BATMAN, and PUNISHER on the local news or on CNN? How many people saw the ROCK 'N ROLL COMICS, GREEN ARROW, SWAMP THING, and SPIDER-MAN pieces on MTV? Many collectors are also coming from the Nintendo playing crowd. FIST OF THE NORTH STAR sold out here just because of the game. Future games include; X-MEN, NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, PUNISHER, BATMAN, T.M.N.T., AND GOLDO13. If these players are impressed by these games they could easily become comic collectors. Proof of this exists already with the TSR line of comics. The gamers are the ones buying those comics, which also sell well.

MARVEL:

Marvel's hottest series currently are; WOLVERINE, EXCALIBUR, X-MEN, X-FACTOR, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, PUNISHER: WAR JOURNAL, PUNISHER, SHE-HULK, AVENGERS and DAREDEVIL. Selling well also are; MOON KNIGHT, CAPTAIN AMERICA, THOR, WHAT IF, IRON MAN, SILVER SURFER, DR. STRANGE, FANTASTIC FOUR, CLASSIC X-MEN, and literally dozens more. The only poor selling Marvels are: CLOAK AND DAGGER, ALF, and the G. I. JOE TITLES. Aside from Batman, Marvel holds all of the top 20 sellers in our outlet.

DC:

Excluding the obvious character of Batman, hot DC titles include; J.L.I., J.L.E., ANIMAL MAN, ACTION, SUPERMAN, NEW TITANS, LEGION '89, WONDER WOMAN, and HAWK AND DOVE. Second string DC heroes include: FLASH, GREEN ARROW, DOOM PATROL, SUICIDE SQUAD, HUNTRESS, HELLBLAZER, CAPTAIN ATOM, and CHECKMATE. Dead DC titles include; QUESTION, POWER OF ATOM, HAYWIRE, SPECTRE, L.S.H., YOUNG ALL STARS and dozens more. DC is at a stand still at our establishment, with BATMAN, DETECTIVE, and the SUPERMAN and JUSTICE LEAGUE titles being the only titles to have grown by noticeable leaps and bounds since our last market report. If the BATMAN movie is a success; however, you can expect DC to market him as much as Marvel has done with WOLVERINE, and hopefully

as much success.

INDEPENDENTS:

Perhaps the hottest independent to be released in our area didn't become hot until it was previewed on MTV. ROCK AND ROLL COMICS sold out slowly enough to allow us to obtain a healthy reorder, which we decided to hold back just in case someone requested it. Shortly thereafter, we saw the interview and put the books out for $5.00 and nearly sold them all, so we raised the price to $10.00 and they're still selling. Also hot are GLADSTONE, due to the overwhelming publicity these have received recently. ALIENS, JUDGE DREDD, SCOUT, ROBOTECH, TEENAGE TURTLES, and TERMINATOR and FRIGHT NIGHT also sell very well.

As far as the back issue market is concerned, Marvel continues to lead the way here as well at our store. Early Marvel titles sell extremely well in top conditions. X-MEN, AMAZING SPIDERMAN, CAPTAIN AMERICA, FANTASTIC FOUR, TALES TO ASTONISH, TALES OF SUSPENSE, IRON MAN, SHIELD, GROO, DR. STRANGE and WOLVERINE are the top selling Marvel back issues at the store currently.

The older DC silver age in mint condition, especially the $4.00 ATOM, AQUAMAN, HAWKMAN, GREEN LANTERN, SUPERMAN, and odd titles such as ANTHRO are doing well. How long before a renewed interest in some Marvel dogs? WEREWOLF BY NIGHT, anyone? Independent back issues which sell well are; T.M.N.T., ROBOTECH, JUDGE DREDD, GLADSTONES, AND CONCRETE. T. V. comics continue to sell well also, with an increased interest in I LOVE LUCY comics since Ball's tragic death last month. In general, any T.V. comics will sell given enough time, even HONEY WEST and FLIPPER. Thank you for your attention.

Roger Smyth
Funny Business
New York City, New York

May, 1989

CURRENT STUFF: Well, as you have been reading the Market Reports in this edition of the update, I'm sure what's struck you has been Batman, Punisher, Batman, Wolverine, Batman, The Mouse, and Batman. As I write this, national publicity has been gearing up for the Batman movie, which opens on June 23rd. In any case Batmania has certainly hit here, roughly 50% of the calls to the store are about Batman related material, (and 49% are for Spiderman #129). And there are days when 75% of sales are Batman related. From the current hype, I can only foresee this increasing. Some noted that the movie had better be good—but, it really doesn't matter at this point; the merchandising is paying for the movie, before admissions and video rentals.

What does all of this mean for you and me? Well, I can't get enough Batman material to sell, and my customers can't get enough to buy. Not one copy of any printing of Dark Knight remains in my store. When I started writing this update, I had 5 complete sets of The Cult, now I have none. The Joker mini-series—I bagged complete sets (at $40) and sold out, bagged short sets (#1 - #6), at $25 and have about 4 left. Most people didn't even know about this series. When they saw them on the counter they grabbed them. The Joker seems to be the "hero" of the hour. To me, the most interesting phenomena is the resurgence of interest in the so-called "bronze age" (70's) material. Still affordable and still around, but going quickly. Regardless of Guide, these should be going for $3 - $5 each. Get them while you can. Death Of Robin issues, Killing Joke, Dark Knight, Cult, recent Batman and Detective—batzoom.....! The issue then is how solid is all of this. I foresee Batman material continuing to rise for the next 3-4 years, and then levelling off, (unless there is a series of sequels to the movie, which if hyped correctly will increase popular interest, and cause more increased activity in the more recent issues).

The other two majors issues are Spiderman #129 (and related Punisher issues), and the Uncensored Mouse. Regarding the #129, just before the new Guide, I sold two VF copies at $80 each. However, just this week, I saw one book at NM which was purchased for $175, and heard from a reliable source that a NM copy went quickly for $200. These sales were from two different sources, so it seems that if you can find a NM-M copy for $150, you've got yourself a bargain (if you want it). How realistic? Seems to me that there were lots more Spiderman printed and sold, than there were Batman of the same period. I suspect there ar many, many #129's around, and while they are bound to be gobbled up (with the Punisher movie on the way), I have to question the stability of these kinds of prices. But then, I have to remember what I said about 10-12 years ago, that it was ridiculous to pay $15 for an X-Men #94. The market has matured a bit since then, so it will be interesting to see the curve for #129 over the next 2-3 years. With the Mouse, a miniphenomenon (which may be over by the time you read this). Much publicity attended this here in N. Y., and there doesn't seem to be any copies to be had. I turned down $50 for a copy I had in the store, and have been offered a copy at $75 (which I turned down). This one seems clearly an odd-ball, and I suspect dealers will charge whatever they can, and customers will pay whatever they can. Perhaps by the time you read this, a floor will have been established, but it probably is a genuinely hard-to-find book.

OTHER CURRENT STUFF: Most all current and recent Marvels and DC's are selling very well. By the time we are done filling our subscriber folders, we only have roughly 35% of the weekly order for sale. Considering that current shipments represent orders placed 2-3 months ago, this means that in the intervening time, more and more titles have been added by our subscribers. Hot right now - Catwoman #1 ($6), Nth Man ($7), Faust (Independent), any JLA's, X-Men, which had slowed to a steady pace increasing once again. Havok-Wolverine (#1 - $8, #2 - $6), Black Kiss, just about what you'd expect with no surprises here. Alpha Flight slowed down considerably, and a poll of my customers indicts both the storyline and the art. All new DC's show initial promise, and are grabbed up immediately, which indicates customer confidence in what DC is doing.

BACK ISSUE MARVEL STUFF: I'm constantly surprised to note that aside from the usual demand and back issue interest in X-Men, there is always a constant demand for back issue Avengers. No particular issues or artists, really seems to be a solid market for this title. Sporadic interest in Moon Knight (a Batman like character?), recent Thor, Captain America, McFarlane, Spiderman's and Grey Hulk issues.

BACK ISSUE DC STUFF: Aside from the Batmania noted above, constant demand for all JLA's, any Catwoman appearances, Titans, (New not Old) showing an increase, and the smaller DC titles (Sea Devils, Challengers) always of interest. As we enter the summer prime time period, I foresee extremely high popularity for all comics, triggered by the Batman movie, but supported by the public with their continued and increased interest.

Comix Corner
32004 Utica Road
Fraser, MI 48026
313-296-2758
Dan and Dolores Ptaszek

May, 1989

"NEW ISSUES"

BATMAN! BATMAN! BATMAN! Let's talk about the obvious first. The Caped Crusader's titles (BATMAN AND DETECTIVE) keep selling at an unbelievable pace with a lot of investors buying multiple copies. We think the greatest thing about all of the Batmania going on is that the stores have been some of the best ever in Detective #598 through #600 written by Batman movie screen writer Sam Hamm and Batman #433 through #435 scripted by fan favorite John Byrne.

The new JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE has been very popular, with great art by Bart Sears (best Captain Atom yet). JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA continues to sell well and has even gained new fans due to people trying the new JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE, liking it and giving JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA a chance. Legion '89 and Hawk and Dove a couple of DC newcomers have sold well and could be long lasting if the quality of the writing is maintained. DC's T.S.R. venture has worked on 2 of the 3 titles (we mention Gammarauders later on in the article).

On the Marvel side of things - all 3 Spiderman titles (especially Amazing Spiderman), X-Men, both Punisher's, Wolverine, Iron Man, She-Hulk, and both of Mr. Byrne's Avengers books are still attracting throngs of collectors with a notable increase in the last 3 titles mentioned.

VIZ's line of titles such as Grey, Nausica and Lum sell well and keep all the Manga enthusiasts satisfied.

Gladstone's Disney line has no trouble keeping it's faithful followers.

Mirage Studios Teen-Age Mutant Ninja Turtles just sells on and on, but, I sure wish they would get on some kind of regular schedule for their fans' sake.

The new Innovation Titles, primarily Hero Alliance, have all been well received. If they keep the quality of the package and the price the same, they should be around for a long time to come.

Although, high priced Silver and Golden Age comics are in constant demand for the old time collectors, the new influx of comic collectors and investors are finding out they are getting more for their money buying newer back issues (last five years) and current solid titles.

With this in mind, here are some current prices: Wolverine (new) #1 - $5.00, Punisher (ongoing) #1 - $10.00, Killing Joke - $15.00, Batman "Death In The Family" (all four) - $60.00, Dark Knight (all four) - $80.00, Punisher War Journal #1 & #6 - $5.00 each.

NOT SO HOT DEPARTMENT:

Eclipse - takes forever for their good titles to come out.

DC - New Guardian, Gammarauders, Young All Stars, Firestorm, Mr. Miracle - Mediocre at best.

Marvel - Avengers Spotlight, Marvel Comics Presents, Alpha Flights, and Shadowline Series - Boring.

Buyer beware the infamous novelty black and white titles that only make money for the quick-back artists. These sky-rocketing titles are often quickly forgotten and you, the speculator, are left holding the bag.

UPCOMING PROJECTS WHICH LOOK GOOD:

It is truly the year of the Batman: Batman - Year Three, Detective - The Mud Pack, Batman Movie Adaptation: Prestige Format.

MARVEL PROJECTS ARE:

Punisher Hardcover by Mike Zeck. Dr. Doom/Dr. Strange Hardcover - painted by Mignola. Nick Fury/Wolverine hardcover drawn by Chaykin.

In closing we would like to wish everyone a safe and fun-filled summer, especially all our club members here at Comix Corner.

Chris Foss & Bob Smith
Nomad Comics/ New Dimension Comics
2609 Central Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28205
704-377-HERO

Overstreet Update Advisory
May, 1989

BACK ISSUE:

We have noted a tremendous move away from all other types of investing and toward Silver Age books. Both Golden Age and new comics investing have taken at least a temporary back seat to the pursuit by the serious collectors of Silver Age books in virtually all categories, and especially in the books from the late 60's. We have realized record prices for such books as CAPTAIN AMERICA #100, IRON MAN #1, and SUBMARINER #1. The tendency is for high grade copies, but we are also seeing a definite rise in sales of lesser grade copies of most Silver Age books at lesser percentages of guide, but still above guide. We are advising most of our back issue customers to invest in Silver Age. We are seeing more and more investors at cons who are attending with the specific purpose of seeking out and buying key books from the mid to late 60's. Titles such as PLASTIC MAN, HAWK & DOVE, NICK FURY (old), IRON MAN & SUBMARINER #1, INCREDIBLE HULK, INFERIOR FIVE, NOT BRAND ECCH, CAPTAIN MARVEL, CAPTAIN ACTION, and other titles that once were considered slow are now very good and steady sellers at above guide prices.

Some of the prices we have been able to get for key books include: INCREDIBLE HULK #181 NM+ - $125.00, SUBMARINER #1 M -$50.00, IRONMAN #1 NM- $90.00, IRON MAN & SUBMARINER #1 M - $48.00, CAPTAIN MARVEL #1 NM/M -$30.00, NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD #1 M -$18.00, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #50 FN - $25.00.

AMAZING SPIDER MAN:

Of course it goes without saying that key books as AMAZING FANTASY #15, AMAZING SPIDERMAN #1, AVENGER #1, et al, are very fast movers in general and in high grade in particular. However, we have noticed that Silver Age Spider-Man comics, and the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN title specifically, is probably the hottest single back issue that we carry. At virtually every convention we attend, we are hit hard on back issues of Spider-Man. Of course there are the requests for such issues as #14, #39 & #40, #42, #50, #100 & #101, and #129 (of course), but we have seen an upsurge in requests for virtually every number in the run. We have realized a price of $125.00 for a mint+ copy of #129, and we regularly get above guide for any AMAZING SPIDER-MAN below #202. In every way, this title is every bit as hot as . . .

BAT MAN:

Well, we all know that BAT MAN is the title nobody wanted or could move two years ago, and now you can fry an egg on it. We noted a slight upsurge in 1988 and began buying up all we could lay our hands upon, speculating on the probability of the mass popularity of the coming Tim Burton film. Virtually every Batman and related title are swift sellers at much more than guide.

While BATMAN and DETECTIVE are obvious sellers, we also move vast quantities of THE JOKER, BATMAN FAMILY, SHADOW OF THE BATMAN, and the prestige format books DARK KNIGHT, and THE CULT. The Batman craze does not seemed to have spilled over to most of the twelve cent WORLD'S FINEST comics. The ten cent issues of WORLD'S FINEST sell on the basis of being Silver Age alone, but the popularity of the caped one does not seem to be influencing sales on the mid to late issues. However, the few issues of WORLD'S FINEST that feature the Joker on the cover are very hot and go for much more than guide. The Joker, it seems, is quite hot, too, with virtually any book featuring Joker on the cover going for three to seven times guide.

Some of the prices we have realized on some key issues are: Batman #100 VG+ - $150.00, (which we could now sell for two and a half times that much), Batman #171 FN+ - $25.00, Batman #244 - #246 NM/M - $45.00 the set, Batman #251 NM - $15.00. And they just keep going up.

NON-MARVEL AND NON-DC BOOKS:

In recent months, we have done exceptionally well with back issues unrelated to the big two. Charlton books do well, as do the old Atlas titles, Archie Comics, Tower Comics, Dells (including and especially FOUR COLOR), general romance books, and Westerns move quickly out of our backstock.

But the fastest movers and the most consistent to go

for above guide prices are TV related books, especially those based on shows from the 60's. STAR TREK books fly out as fast as we can stock them, and such titles as THE INVADERS, T.H.E. CAT, HONEY WEST, THE AVENGERS, THE MUNSTERS, DARK SHADOWS, SECRET AGENT MAN, GREEN HORNET, THE MONKEES, THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E., and WILD WILD WEST move swiftly and achieve prices well above guide in very fine or better condition, but which move only at guide in less than fine.

NEW COMICS:

New comics are selling as well as ever through the stores, although with the mass proliferation of comics shops all over the country, it no longer is very profitable to carry new comics to conventions. Marvel continues to be the general leader, with DC close behind in most of our locations. Alternative books carry a much smaller slice of the pie, although a large enough percentage so that we make a concerted effort to carry a complete line in all our stores and to push alternative books to our customers.

The X-Men and Mutant related books are still doing well, but not as well as in the past. The current popularity of DC books seems to carry across the entire line of the company—each book sells equally as well as the others with only a few exceptions (such as BAT MAN).

Of the smaller companies, Dark Horse does the best job for us. Most of their books do well, with CONCRETE leading the way sales-wise. ROACHMILL moves rather quickly and does well as a back issue, as do FLAMING CARROT and ALIENS.

CEREBUS continues to plug along as a new book, with little fluctuations in sales, but we have noted that the early issues (#1-#21) do poorly unless offered at 35 to 50 per cent off guide prices. However, the issues after #21 move briskly at guide, with no discount offered, so it is still, in general, a good mover for us as a back issue—with the exception of the early numbers.

Overall we do not encourage our customers to speculate on vast numbers of new books. We feel that to do so is a mistake, with little chance of the investor realizing much of a profit, and perhaps seeing a loss in the long run. For every hit such as the "Death In The Family" saga, there are dozens of flops and do-nothings. We feel that to encourage our customers to invest heavily on new books is to do them a disservice. Our advice is: if you like it, buy it. But don't think that you are going to make a killing purchasing mass amounts of most new books that come out with the idea of selling them off at many times cover price in a few years.

GOLDEN AGE:

Just because we have seen a great trend toward Silver Age books does not mean that Golden Age has gone completely cold. We still do move many older books at a brisk pace, but mainly the super hero titles, and mainly at or below guide. Most Golden Age books that we sell go consistently at guide, but there seems to be resistance at above guide prices on this type of investment if the book is not in exceptional condition.

The only Golden Age books that we have moved in recent months at above guide prices are pre-hero DC books. We recently sold a run of pre 1940 books for one and a half to five times guide, and mainly for books that were in less than very fine condition, ranging as low as good. Still, these books are seen so rarely that we were offered prices far exceeding those listed for them in the Overstreet Price Guide. Perhaps some adjustments need to be made in those categories.

Brian Hicks & Art Clem
Collector's Choice
Cleveland, Knoxville Tennessee

May, 1989

Since the last Bulletin in the winter, things have remained fairly calm. Fairly, if you don't include Batman! Stretching out into every field of merchandising from sun visors to women's dresses, Batman has proven who is the hero with the most! And as far as comics go, he is clearly leading the market at this time. But the market in general has become more conservative, pickier and continually harder to please. As we noted in our last report, the trend for higher quality books continues, and those that can't cut it are out.

Marvel: Marvel has had a decent winter, in comparison with the other companies. Amazing Spider-Man sales continue to rise, and ASM consistently outsells Wolverine now. Speaking of Wolverine, Havok & Wolverine wasn't that hot. It was okay, but delays in publishing (issue #4 hasn't reached us as of mid-May) have hurt this book tremendously.

But delays in publishing may not be the only problem with Havok & Wolverine. Wolverine in general seems to be declining in popularity. Granted, sales on this book and X-Men still put most books' figures to shame, but the fever isn't there like it used to be. Maybe it's just a slump.

She-Hulk is also going down. After starting off with astronomical figures, it seems to be dropping a little bit. People either love Byrne's format or they hate it, and there must be more haters, because our sales are going down somewhat. Look for the book to really plummet when Byrne gets tired of drawing it.

On the brighter side for Marvel, S.H.I.E.L.D., looks like it will be a hit. Similarly, Moon Knight is showing a great deal of promise. But on the other hand, Nth Man (how do you say that?) is a dud (Speedball in disguise).

The rest of Marvel's titles are fluctuating. This week Daredevil and Iron Man are up; Avengers, Web, West Coast, Thor and Captain America are holding; Hulk and Fantastic Four are down a little; and the X-books and mutant titles are surprisingly low in proportion to their sister titles. And though Punisher War Journal is picking up, Punisher seems to be slacking off a bit.

As for back issues, Marvel Silver Age books are hot. If we could find any, we know we could sell them. Besides issues of Amazing Spider-Men before #200, the books to watch for are the early issues of mid-size Marvel titles like Captain America, Iron Man and Thor.

DC:

It is very fitting that DC stands for "Detective Comics" since Batman is keeping the company afloat these days. We're not saying that DC would be in trouble without Batman, but they are kind of short on hot titles at the moment. Justice League Europe has started hot, but who can say how long it will stay that way? A surprise has been Advanced Dungeons & Dragons, a very strong seller in both our stores and our mail order service. To top even that, Animal Man is a strong title for us (go figure).

What has not been hot is a longer list for DC. Gilgamesh is a flop, Hero Hotline is rancid, Cops stinks, New Gods is god-awful, Skreemer is a scream, and Blackhawk, don't even ask about Blackhawk (why do they bother with crap like that?). But, Huntress is decent, Sandman is still strong, Hawk and Dove is okay, Legion '89 is surviving. And on the outlook, we predict Hawkworld will be worth a look.

In the Batman books, which should probably be a sub-heading in itself, the Detective storyline from #598 to #600 was a tremendous seller, but back issues probably won't get too high. The Many Deaths Of Batman storyline in Batman is also strong (Batman also outsells X-Men nowadays) and back issue prices on that will probably be fairly high, but not in the league with Killing Joke, which is probably one of the most sought after books at this time. The Death In The Family issues are still pretty hot, and we predict in time #426 will be the hard issue to get. We also wonder if there should be a price distinction between the direct and newsstand versions of Batman #427. Only the direct market copies had the 900 number in them, and since that was the first time such an event has occurred, does that in itself constitute a true "collectible?" And while we could close out this paragraph by advising everyone to buy Batman books, we know we don't have to do that.

DC's new line, Piranha Presse, is a hard call. While some of the titles look like they will be interesting to read, we don't

see any of them becoming "hot" back issues in the future, but we could be wrong . . .

In back issues it seems early '70's DC's are moving. Anything with Batman on the cover sells, it doesn't matter if it is one of his books or not. The hottest DC back issue right now is the 1974-1975 run of The Joker comic book. While a few years ago these books held residance in bargain boxes across the country, they now hang on back boards rubbing elbows with the X-Men. In the wider picture, Silver Age DC (not even necessarily key Silver Age) is moving very well, and we look for a complete re-assessment of these books' worth soon.

INDEPENDENTS:

The Independents market has been plagued with mediocrity lately. Not much has been happening at all. Eternity is in legal trouble again, and sales-wise Eclipse is dying out. In what has to win the Jim Shooter award for marketing strategy, Comico cancelled its best-selling book, The Trouble With Girls, which will be returning to Eternity.

Dark Horse still has Aliens, which sells well, and Concrete, which isn't seen very much these days. Is Concrete fixing to sink? But, on the plus side for Dark Horse, our pre-order figures on Predator are out of this world, and we expect it to go through the roof when it hits the back issue market.

Our token play for a new company: we have been impressed with the new Caliber Press. Baker Street sold impressively for an unknown black and white title, and Caliber Presents is a good-looking book. If Caliber Press continues to maintain its quality and timeliness (an underrated variable in our market), it could be the next Dark Horse.

As most first quarters goes, this has been a slow one. But, already feeling the glut of the summer dump reaching us, there's sure to be action to report on for next issue. And although there has been little activity in this first part of the year, at least the people who were buying Batman all along are having fun.

Bill Townsend & Tom Cauffield
Electric City Comics
1704 Van Vranken Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12308
518-377-1500

May, 1989

Well, we've had six months to think about our next Market Report, and there has been PLENTY to think about. We're not really sure where to begin, but here it goes:

First off, it seems that events have conspired to make us look a little foolish. After complaining of how new issue sales were hurting back issue sales (which certainly was the case six months ago), we're happy to say that BACK ISSUES ARE BACK! Almost as soon as our complaints saw print we experienced a heavy back issue resurgence. In October, our new-issue/back-issue percentage split was about 70/24, but by December it was 60/39 and by April it was 58/32. This was partly due to in-store sales and specials, but it stands to reason a back issue surge should follow a new issue surge. What's even nicer is that we aren't selling fewer new issues, just more comics overall so we certainly have nothing to complain about anymore!

Being advisors to the Overstreet updates has made us a little statistic-happy. We've been keeping careful track of new and back issue sales, and it's been very educational. We now have a better idea of what kind of comic-buying area Schenectady is compared to the rest of the country. It's very conservative, very heavily Marvel oriented and definitely bargain conscious when it comes to back issues. Higher priced books (over, say $10), except for certain key issues, do not go very quickly here. Our buyer would much rather buy 10 cheap comics than one expensive one. There are some people who are very grade-conscious, of course, but most don't really care as long as the book doesn't fall apart in their hands.

The following is a list of our top back issue sellers. The unit of measurement is % X-Men' so, for example, Avengers sell 50% of what X-Men sells as a back issue. Here's the list: 1. X-Men - 100%, 2. Amazing Spiderman - 64%, 3. Fantastic Four - 55%, 4. Avengers - 50%, 5. Daredevil - 47%, 6. Iron Man - 40%, 7. Batman - 37%, 8. Thor - 36%, 9. New Teen Titans - 35%, 10. Captain America - 33%, 11. X-Factor - 32%, 12. Detective Comics - 30%, 13. G. I. Joe - 27%, 14. Conan - 26%, 15. Punisher - 26%, 16. Spectacular Spiderman - 25%, 17. Incredible Hulk - 24%, 18. Silver Surfer - 21%, 19. Star Wars - 19%, 20. Marvel Team-Up - 17%, 21. Legion Of Super Heroes - 16%, 22. New Mutants - 15%, 23. Web Of Spiderman - 13%, 24. Moon Knight - 12%, 25. Action Comics - 12%.

Titles with about 10-11% X-Men sales include Marvel Two-In-One, Classic X-Men, Sub-Mariner, Excalibur, West Coast Avengers, What If?, Justice League, Secret Wars, Wonder Woman, Punisher War Journal, TMNT, and Wolverine.

The list pretty much speaks for itself, but a few things need explaining. Because this reflects actual sales, the list can be skewed by one or two people completing a collection of a given title. This is the case with New Teen Titans. If not for one person, it wouldn't have made the Top 20. Also, this list reflects our supply as well as demand. This is important for two reasons. First, there are some things we are running out of. Batman and Detective would be much higher on the list, but we simply don't have enough back issues. Also, we have lots of books like Fantastic Four in the #30-#100 range, but nearly no Avengers in the same range, and this probably allowed FF to edge ahead on the list. The second reason is that titles like X-Factor, Punisher, Punisher War Journal, Silver Surfer, Excalibur and Wolverine are RED HOT but have so few issues in the run that they aren't accurately represented on the list. Punisher, with only 25 issues under his belt, just can't compete with X-Men, with nearly a 250 issue run. Considering how few issues are in the runs of the aforementioned titles, they are really on fire. "Surfer" is a surprising addition to the list. We have a short run issues that and lots of people here are looking for them. The figure on the list reflects sales on the new series almost exclusively. Back issue sales on the new Wolverine series were a bit weak at first, and new issue sales even sagged around issue #7. Let's face it, the early issues were pretty lame. However, with issue #10, sales are back up to expected levels. Quality sells, guys! We just can't keep the mini-series in stock at any price.

Expect the first issues of all the above RED HOT books to reach $10.00 very soon. The Wolverine mini-series #1 may hit $20.00, and the Punisher mini #1 should see $40.00 (we just sold one for $35.00).

X-Men, as usual, is selling well. Issues after #200 are flying out of here, and issues #160 - #200 are strong as well. We're still not seeing much activity in the #95 - #130 range, though. Not rare, too expensive (stop me if you've heard this before).

Among titles in the "Back Issue Surprises" Department: G. I. Joe?! Conan?! Star Wars?! Would you believe Moon Knight?! Yes, there are all holding their own once again. New issue sales on "Joe" are falling (so what else is new?) but back issues after issue #30 or so move pretty consistently. Conan has always had a following in this area. It's GHEEP. About 75% of the run is available for about a buck. Moon Knight is far too cheap. The Sienkiewicz issues should all be at least $1.50 or $2.00. Both Star Wars and Star Trek show sales that no other cancelled titles have

Sales on New Teen Titans are improving. The return of Perez generated more interest than we had predicted. #50 is easily a $5.00 book. However, the chronic lateness of the new issues is strangling this renaissance in the cradle.

Here in Schenectady the majority of the DC/Alternate back issues are just taking up space. There are some bright spots, however. $ .10 & $ .12 DC's in low grade are really moving, even stinkoids like World's Finest. Just price them to sell and they will. The "new" DC titles - Flash, Wonder Woman, Power Of The Atom, and Superman are snoring. Justice League is doing OK, but it doesn't sell nearly as well here as it does in other parts of the country. We cannot sell a #1 for $9.50 although the guide lists it for $12.00. #2 we can sell for $9.50, though. Justice League Europe #1 sold very well and this has perked up

sales of the flagship title, but who knows for how long.

The one DC character that can do no wrong is, of course, Batman. "Batmania" is sweeping the nation, due mainly to interest in the upcoming movie. The "I-only-buy-Marvel" attitude that generally grips this area does not extend to this fellow. The Killing Joke, after being quiet for a while is selling very well. The Cult is hot, and Dark Knight back issues are impossible to keep. However, the "Death Of Robin" mania is subsiding. The peak prices for the "Death In The Family" issues are: #426 - $15, #427 - $25, $428 - $32, and #429 - $14. Look for these prices to drop to around half of this, and stay there for a while. Many people wander in and say "Gee, I bought 10 of those." Eventually these people are going to sell their stash. What then?

As far as the alternates are concerned, there really isn't much to say. It would be nice if a new issue of Concrete or Aliens or Roachmill came out once in a while. Black Kiss is still the best selling new alternate here, although reprints have caused interest in the first printings to drop.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles is the only alternate back issue that is selling in any volume at all. The expensive early ones are slow, but everything else moves quickly. The person who won't buy a 1st printing of #4 for $9.50 will gleefully pay $3.50 for the 2nd print. The Archie color series has been tagged as a "kiddie" comic; however, people are beginning to back off.

Well that's it for now. So, until Wolverine and The Punisher join the Peace Corps, MAKE OURS OVERSTREET!

Dennis Behrend * Back Issue Specialist
Golden Age Collectables, Ltd.
1501 Pike Place Market, * 401 Lower Level
Seattle, WA 98103

May, 1989

1989 got off to a blazing start here at Golden Age Collectables - literally. On January 2, we had a small fire on the outer wall of our store. The fire was not extensive and we were closed for one day. Only 5% - 8% of our total comic book stock was in some way damaged by either the fire or water. Since all or our back issues are sealed tight in polyethelene bags, the water was kept away from all but some comics. Time-lock mylars also helped to protect all but a few of our more expensive issues. It was tough cleaning up and we would like to thank our distributor and all the countless comic buyers who shop at Golden Age - thank you very much for all your well wishes and support.

As reported in our previous Market Reports, the increasing cover price of comics is the greatest concern facing both consumers and dealers. At first, the price increase of many comics to $1.00 and $1.50 had little effect on our profits, as decreased sales were matched by the price increases. However, this situation is quickly changing. Comic buyers are much more critical of the comics they purchase, especially now that all new comics will cost a minimum of $1.00 (except for the three Superman comics). Wherein comic buyers once made investment speculations by purchasing multiple copies of an issue, they are now only making single copy purchases. The first comic books people cut back on are in the $1.50 - $3.95 range, which presently consist of over half the total new comics market. What comic companies have forgotten is that a large portion of the comic market is made up of young people (6-18 years of age) who do not have a lot of money. The future success of the comic book market is uncertain, but there are some particular things we should all watch for: Will the price increases subtract from sales of back issue comics? Will high priced independent comics begin to sell better now that their $1.50 - $2.00 prices are comparable with many D. C. and Marvel comics? Will we see an overall decrease in comic buying? I strongly encourage each advisor to the next update to make some comment about the price increases and their effect on comic sales.

Batman is this year's dominating force in the comic book market! All the attention to Batman's 50th anniversary and the new movie has generated a lot of interest among non-Batman fans and non-comic readers alike. In particular, there is a back issue buying trend of any Batman comic which features the Joker. Issues before #160 are nearly impossible to find, and even harder to find in very fine to mint. For that matter, very fine to mint copies of issues #161 - #260 are equally scarce. In contrast, sales are slow on most back issues of Detective Comics. The demand for all four parts of "A Death In The Family" have levelled-off, but still remain very popular collector's items. First prints of both the Dark Knight Returns mini-series and the Killing Joke one-shot are in strong demand and are becoming harder and harder to find. Prices are high and supplies are low on the nine-issue joker series from the late seventies. The success of this year's Catwoman mini-series caught a lot of collector's off-guard and the first issue is rapidly increasing in value. People are even beginning to purchase back issues of Batman and the Outsiders. Right now, if a comic has Batman in it, people will buy it.

While Batman comics are selling very well, there is also an enormous amount of Batman merchandise being released. Although most Batman paraphernalia is selling very well, there is a danger of over-saturating the market with too many Batman items.

The first issue of Justice League Europe has sold out and issues #2 & #3 are almost gone. Current issues of Justice League International continue to sell very well and back issues of #1 - #3 are in high demand.

Riding on the momentum of last year's mini-series, the first issue of the new Hawk & Dove series has sold out. Although, mini-series artist Rob Liefeld is not drawing the regular series, the future still looks very promising for the new Hawk & Dove.

Writer Grant Morrison's work on Animal Man and Doom Patrol is starting to catch a lot of peoples' attention and sales are gradually increasing for both titles. Keep a watchful eye on these comics as they could become "sleepers" in the collector's market similar to Alan Moore's early work on Swamp Thing.

The first issues of the Blackhawk regular series and the Gilgamesh II mini-series sold surprisingly well, but subsequent issues have not maintained the same level of demand.

The Prisoner mini-series has sold much better than anticipated. A large number of people buying this comic have never seen the T. V. series but are enjoying the story just the same.

Another hit from D. C. is the Janus Directive story-line. All issues of Captain Atom, Checkmate!, Firestorm, Manhunter, and Suicide Squad containing this eleven part story have sold out.

All three TSR game adaptation comics do not appear long for this world. Advanced Dungeons & Dragons has retained a small readership, but Dragon Lance and Gammarauders are down for the count. Other D. C. comics which have levelled-off in readership include Green Arrow, Legion Of Super Heroes, Swamp Thing, and V for Vendetta.

From Marvel comics, X-Men remains the top selling current and back issue comic book from any company. For that matter, all "X-Mutant" comic books remain very popular. Even though sales have declined on X-Men, X-Factor, and the New Mutants since the end of the "Inferno" storyline, sales on all three titles remain substantially higher than most other comics. Excalibur appears to be slipping in popularity since artist Alan Davis left the series, yet sales are still very good for this comic. The "Dark Phoenix Saga" promotional blurb on the cover of Classic X-Men was an effective marketing technique to increase sales for this comic.

While the X-Men remains the most popular comic book, Wolverine remains the most popular character. With his own series, appearances in X-Men, an upcoming regular feature in Marvel Comics Presents, Classic X-Men, the Meltdown mini-series, and the Saga Of Wolverine, Wolverine will be appearing in more comic books in a single month than any other character in comic books! Even though these are troubled times for prestige format comic books, sales on Havok & Wolverine:

Meltdown have been very good, and the soon to be released Saga Of Wolverine should sell fairly well. Punisher War Journal #6 & #7, which guest feature Wolverine, have sold out. Many people underestimated the initial success of this team-up, which has created a big back issue demand for copies of issue #6. Expect a high demand for artist Todd McFarlane's work on the new Wolverine story coming in Marvel Comics Presents. Also expect a slight increase in demand for the regular Wolverine series once artist John Byrne begins illustrating that comic.

Speaking of John Byrne, it was just ten years ago that he was the most popular artist in comic books - whatever he drew was a guaranteed success. Nowadays, his fan interest has wanned due to a bit, but sales on West Coast Avengers are good, and the new She-Hulk series has also been selling fairly well.

Other Marvel titles which retain a high level of popularity include all three Spider-Man titles, the Punisher and Punisher's War Journal, and Groo The Wanderer.

With the cancellation of all New Universe titles, we are seeing some new titles from Marvel, some of which are doing surprisingly well in their initial sales. The first issues of the new Moon Knight series, Nth Man, and What If...? have all sold out, and subsequent issues have all but vanished off the new comic racks. This trend will probably continue with the new SHIELD series. On the other hand, the upcoming Quasar series looks to be short-lived.

Marvel titles which are slipping in sales include Alien Legion, Cloak and Dagger, The Shadowline Saga (Dr. Zero, Powerline & St. George), Marvel Fanfare, Transformers, and the once might G. I. Joe.

Two of the hardest Silver Age comics to find are Journey Into Mystery #83 and Iron Man #1. The demand for these two issues has increased dramatically over the last year and a half and collectors have been buying up copies regardless of their condition.

After a year and a half of falling sales, Japanese adaptation comics are on the rebound. However, the titles which are currently popular are new ones from those published two years ago. Dirty Pair is selling very slow, as is Justy, Outlanders, and Pineapple Army. There is an interesting trend here in that those comics published in the "prestige" format are outselling the others. This is an odd occurrence at a time when there is a glut of prestige format comics on the market. One explanation maybe the quality of the stories as compared with their American counterparts.

With an extra push from the media, the Uncensored Mouse has become an instant collector's item... or has it? Many dealers have priced their copies of Uncensored Mouse #1 at $10.00, but there seem to be very few takers. Although collectors and investors want copies of Uncensored Mouse #1 which are worth ten dollars, nobody wants to pay that much for one. Whether or not the collectability of this comic will endure remains to be seen.

The Aliens mini-series from Dark Horse Comics continues to sell extremely well. With the success of this series, expect an equally big interest in the second Aliens mini-series (printed in four parts). Meanwhile, other Dark Horse Comics continue to sell very well, including Concrete, Flaming Carrot, and Roachmill.

Tapping The Vein, the comic book adaptation of Clive Barker's Books Of Blood could be one of the big collector's items this year. Our store receives an average of one phone call a day asking when this comic will be released. Barker's notoriety as one of the great horror writers could attract the interest of many non-comic readers.

The new Grendel storyline looked promising when the first part (ssue #28) sold out. However, interest has quickly subsided and it looks as if this title could be facing dire times ahead of it.

Another comic which has slowed down in sales is Black Kiss. Although there is still some interest in the series, many people just feel it isn't worth $1.25 for 12 pages of story. Also, there is less of a back issue demand for first prints of issues #1 & #2.

The Tick is steadily growing in popularity and the first two issues of this series are very hard to find.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles continues to be a runaway success. New issue sales of Turtle comics may fluctuate from time to time, but there remains a steady demand for all Turtle back issues.

While the Batman movie is receiving a good deal of attention, other comic characters, will be making their debuts on the silver screen. The Punisher and Sgt. Rock will be appearing in their own movies, while the Swamp Thing is returning for his second film. However, these movies look more like tax shelters than major blockbusters. These movies will probably have minimal, if any, effect on the sales of their founding comics.

Hide the kids! - It's the Gun N' Roses comic book. You could laugh, but don't be surprised if this comic surpasses everyone's expectations. In the past, rock and roll comics have done surprisingly well as long term collector's items (i.e. Yellow Submarine, The Monkees, and issues of Marvel Super Special featuring the Beatles and Kiss). If Guns N' Roses popularity continues to grow over the next several years, this title could become a collectors item.

THE ANOMALY DEPARTMENT: There are two different versions to Justice League #1. Although not as extreme as the alternate cover version to Justice League #3, there is a price difference between those copies sold through direct sales (priced at $ .75) and those sold through mass market vendors (priced at $1.00) This is just a note of interest for the curious as there is no indication that one issue is harder to find than the other.

Dan Gregory, Kendall Carnes, Curt Collins
Memphis Comics/ The Star Store
Memphis, TN/ Jackson/ MS

May, 1989

Comic collecting is enjoying a boom year with healthy signs of the trend continuing. The future is likely to bring more of the general public collecting comics and learning more of our hobby. The increased demand will escalate prices, but it will take time for this to be accurately reported and reflected in the Overstreet Price Guides.

Many good series are available at low prices, particularly those that have not yet been "discovered". Collectors should look for the things they will enjoy long term and not follow the herd and drive prices up in a feeding frenzy by creating artificial demand in the marketplace.

The best selling comics are the long term winners, series that everyone knows: Batman, Spider-Man, X-Men, Superman, Fantastic Four, Justice League and a few others. These books are well known and should be around for decades longer with collectors seeking the dwindling supply of early issues. The value of key issues is going up and should be a safe investment for the comics collector.

MARVEL SILVER-AGE: Fantastic Four, Amazing Spider-Man, Avengers, Hulk, Journey Into Mystery and the X-Men are the most demanded series. These books are very seldom offered for sale in our area and demand is heavy. The release of the Marvel Masterworks series has called attention to the early classics and collectors are eager to add to the stature of their collection. Early Marvel's are a good investment and have a proven record of appreciation.

MARVEL RECENT: Punisher and Punisher War Journal, Marvel Super Action #1, Marvel Preview #2, Amazing Spider-Man, the incredible Hulk by Todd McFarlane, Excalibur, and Wolverine are among the hottest sellers. New collectors usually start Marvel with Amazing Spider-Man or the Punisher. Moon Knight and Nick Fury books are hot due to the recent revivals. X-Men sales are brisk with many collectors beginning with Classic X-Men.

DC SILVER-AGE: Hotter than Marvel! Best sellers include: Atom, Justice League Of America, Hawkman, Rip

Hunter, Time Master, World's Finest Comics, Metal Men, Flash, House Of Secrets, Metamorpho, Teen Titans, Doom Patrol, Superman, Showcase, Adventure Comics (Starring the Legion of Super-Heroes), and Brave And The Bold. Batman has long been a favorite of collectors and the increased public awareness of the issue seller. New collectors begin with Batman. Detective Comics and Batman, Brave And The Bold, World's Finest, Justice League Of America and all Batman guest appearances are universally the hottest in the hobby.

DC RECENT: Batman dominates here too, with other significant cross-over issues in demand. New Teen Titans #39, (Robin resigns), Tales Of The Teen Titans #44, (Robin becomes Nightwing), and the Death In The Family issues, (Batman #426 - #429), are rapid, consistent sellers and are being sought out by buyers new to collecting.

Other hot DC's are Starman, Doom Patrol, Animal Man, Superman Vol. II, Catwoman, Phantom, Invasion, Dragonlance, Advanced Dungeons & Dragons, Justice League and Justice League Europe, The New Titans, Questions, Watchman, Dr. Fate, Batman: The Dark Knight, The Cult, Killing Joke and Green Arrow.

INDEPENDENTS (COLOR): Judge Dredd, Badger, Rocketeer, Dreadstar, Nexus, Flare, Jonny Quest, Terminator, and Miracle Man are some of the hottest of the independents. Collectors seeking something different than the standard fare of the Marvel and DC can find something in the independents. These books are designed to appeal to the older reader and tend to attract devoted, hard core collectors.

INDEPENDENTS (BLACK AND WHITE): Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Lone Wolf and Cub, Appleseed, Flaming Carrot, Black Kiss, Aliens, Grey, Concrete and Cherry are the hottest of the black and whites. As with the color independents, readers tend to be older, seeking alternative to the mainstream.

Collectors can plan for the future by buying copies of popular series for future trade for back issues. Selection is important but a little research in the market can get you started. Marvel and DC super hero first are a safe easy investment, but everyone may have them. Watch for quality artists beginning major series like Todd McFarlane on Amazing Spider-Man or George Perez's return to the New Titans. Another area overlooked by many collectors is final issues. When a series ends, it is not commonplace for the creators to finish the story. This was not always the case and collectors would be left dangling. We are almost always sold out of the final issues of Powerman and Iron Fist, Ghost Rider, Team America, Rom, Infinity Inc., Outsiders, and the final issues of limited series: Camelot 3000, Elektra: Assasin, Watchman, Secret Wars and Crisis On Infinite Earths. Other things to look for as investments are significant events like costume changes, team membership changes, deaths of major characters, or any other change to the status quo of a series. When chosen carefully these "side bets" can be a great hedge against inflation.

Keith Contarino

Southeast Market Report

May, 1989

As I write this report, I have over $7,000 tied up in returned books. As incredible as it may seem, I am still getting books sent to me as NM or M with tape, brown pages, magic marker touch ups, loose staples, chips, etc. I have also located 3 or 4 dealers that grade accurately. Thank you! Please, everybody look at the Guide definitions. They are not that difficult to learn and understand. Accurate grading is more important than ever.

NEW BOOKS: DC, Batman & Detective continue to sell out. All Batman-related items are red hot. Expect this to continue at least through the summer. DC has captured the country's' attention with the Batman. Even with Batman #426 - #429 being reprinted almost simultaneously with the originals, the set still commands a hefty price due to the influx of people who normally do not buy comics. These are the same type folks that were buying DARK KNIGHT, 3 years ago. I've sold 3 sets to people I work with who never buy comics. The sets sell briskly at $45 with a range of reported sales of $30 - $120. #426 is by far the scarcest and #428 is very easy to find. We've been selling individual copies as follow: #426 - $12 - $16, #427 - $10 - $15, #428 - $15 - $22, and #429 - $5 - $8. The Killing Joke still sells well at $10 - $12. The Cult sells well, with #3 being the hardest to find.

Other current DC - JLI sells well as current and back issues but demand for #1 and #2 has slowed as price increased, #1 brings $10. Power Of The Atom and Flash sell OK as new issue but not as back stock. Legion has picked up as have Titans since Perez is back on the books. Invasion has slowed to a halt. Wonder Woman has slowed. Watchmen is selling much better with interest in #1 at $5.

MARVEL: Punisher, Punisher War Journal, X-Men, and Spiderman routinely sell out. Anything with Wolverine or the Punisher goes quickly Daredevil remains hot also. The first appearance of Typhoid Mary is bringing $10 for us. The recent escalation of 60's Captain America prices has increased sales of current issues and recent backstock. The same is true for Iron Man. In an opposite manner, the current popularity of the Kingpin is driving prices of his early appearances sky high much like what has happened to early Punisher appearances. She-Hulk has had mixed success. Some people loathe the books while other report good sales. Spiderman #299 is bringing $10 and #300 sells for almost as much. #298 - #303 seem to be in fairly short supply. Marvel Comics Presents without Wolverine does not sell well. 'Nam has slowed considerably as new and back stock. G. I. Joe is still dead (Proof there is a God!). Transformers are slowing than G.I. Joe and now entering rigor mortis! All other Marvel titles have undergone no significant change.

INDEPENDENTS: There are still a lot of quality independents but with the penchant of every independent publisher (except Flaming Carrot) to reprint even mildly popular issues - there is not only no back issue market but few people are willing to take a chance on new issues. Consequently, there are few good investments. New issues that still sell well for us are; Cerebus, Femforce, Sentinels, Elementals, Jademan books and Aliens. the unauthorized Mickey Mouse book is bringing huge prices as Disney has sued Eternity and the book has been pulled. Concrete has slowed and TMNT sells all right. Gladstones, especially Ducks, are sell outs at many stores. Order more!! These books are terrific and back issues have appreciated significantly.

SILVER AGE: Marvels - The skys' the limit!! It is absolutely incredible what is happening in the market. Not only are key issues selling for well over Guide, but literally any high grade book before 1970 leaps off the shelves. Spiderman leads the way with Captain America and Iron Man close behind. We have sold copies of Spiderman #9, #11, #12, #13, #17, #19, #21, #23, #24, #31, #32, #36, and #38 in strict NM at 150% Mint Guide. We turned down $125 for a VF-NM #14. Spiderman #50 is red, red hot. Not only is it a landmark number with an eye catching cover, it is the first appearance of the Kingpin. We sold two VG/FN copies for $35 and a F/VF for $45 and cannot find copies in high grade anywhere at any price. I believe a Mint copy of this book is worth in the $75 - $100 range. Spiderman #51 features a great Kingpin cover and is hot at $15 - $18. All key Marvels in high grade bring 25% - 150% above Mint (or NM) Guide. We sold another VF/NM JIM #83 for $725. We also sold #87, #88, #90, #91 and #96 at between 150% and 175% NM Guide for NM copies.

Captain Amenca #100 is as hard to find and keep as Spiderman #50. It is reportedly bringing $75 - $100 in strict NM/M. We sold a VG copy for $25 and a F copy at $35. We can't find a nice copy. The books to watch, however, are Tales Of Suspense #58 & #59. Many collectors are coming to view one of these books as the true Captain America #1 of the Silver Age and not Captain America #100. We have not owned a high grade

copy of either book. Other report sales of up to $50 for #58 in NM/M and $25 for #59. TOS #53 is the first Silver Age origin of Captain and overlooked. We also think TOS #55 & #66 are taking off as they contain the first Silver Age appearance and origin of the Red Skull. We have sold a #58 in VF for $25, A #59 in F/VF for $15, a #63 in VF/NM for $20 and 2 copies each of #65 & #66 in VF/NM at $12. I would not surprise me if #58 reaches $50 - $60 in NM before the year is out. Other TOS issues to watch are #52 (First Black Widow), #53 (Origin Watcher), #57 (First Hawkeye). All are selling well above Guide in strict VF or better. Needless to say, Captain #101 - #125 are hot and escalating in value. Tales To Astonish #59 & #50 are undergoing the same transformation TOS #58 & #59 are. They represent Hulk #1 in his second series. Both are easily bringing $25 - $35 in NM. Watch for TTA #70 to take off as it is the true Submariner #1.

We also sold a run of non-key Strange Tales from #112 to #128 at Double NM Guide. These books are very underpriced, as are all the Ditko Dr. Strange issues in NF/NM.

Moderately expensive Marvels include FF #4 (First appearance of a Timely Super Hero in the Silver Age), FF #5 (First Appearance Dr. Doom !!!!!), Strange Tales #110 (First Dr. Strange), FF #48 (First Silver Surfer), Spiderman #6, (First Lizard). All these books are way too low in guide and are bringing large prices in high grade. We sold a NM FF #4 for $600 and have a standing offer for $650 for a NM FF #5. We sold a Mint FF #48 for $100. We have not been able to locate the other in high grade. Lower grade copies of all these are plentiful and are not bringing much above Guide.

This is important to note as it brings up a useful example for discussing Guide values. Most Silver Age Marvels are plentiful in G-F, especially those published after 1965. They do not command above Guide except for rare exceptions such as Captain #100 or Spidey #50. However, in NM they are very rare and worth much more than current Guide values. Truly Mint should and do bring 2 to 5 times NM Guide prices. We are noticing more and more that there is a huge difference in prices for NM and Mint. Contrary to popular belief, there are some Silver Age books around in true Mint and they are virtually priceless.

Lower priced Marvels bringing above Guide in high grade include Iron Man #2 - #20, Submariner #1, Captain Marvel #1, Spiderman #31 - #49, and Iron Man and Submariner one-shot. Early 70's Marvels are showing renewed interest. We are being asked more for books like Defenders #1, Godzilla #1, Iron Fist #1 and even Savage She-Hulk #1.

DC: What can I say? BATMAN!!!!!!. All $ .10 issues in any grade bring at least 150% Guide and high grades bring considerably more. Special issues like Batman #100 and Detective #225 & #233 are bringing up to 3 times Guide in VF or better.

$ .12 issues sell almost as well and almost as high. Still affordable and great investments are Detective #265 (Origin Batman), #267 (First Bat-Mite), #298 (First Silver Age Clayface), and Batman #171 (First Silver Age Riddler). These books are a bargain at Double NM Guide for VF or better copies. We sold a Batman #171 in VG for $35 and a F+ for $45 over 4 months ago. With increased interest in Robin, Batman #366 - #368 have escalated into the $12 - $18 range. Another overlooked book is Detective #359 (New Bat-Girl) as well as Batman #139 (First Original Bat-Girl).

All key Silver Age DC's (except Adventure #247) sell at above Guide in all grades. We have not had any in high grades but other dealers report up to 250% for true NM/M copies of JLA #1, B & B #28, Showcase #4, #1313, #14, #22, #34, Atom #1, Hawkman #1 and Flash #105, #110 & #12. We have had low grade copies of Flash #123 & #129 and have gotten double Guide. Green Lantern #40 sells terrific at Guide in mid grades and above in NM/M. We sold a VF Green Lantern #59 for $50 and would love to buy a NM copy. All the mid-range numbers like JLA #2 - #50, Atom, Hawkman #2- #20, MIS #54 - #90, bring above Guide in VF or better but not in lower grades. Superman titles are very slow. So called "Minor Keys" like Detective #265, #267, Action #293 (Original Comet), Showcase #30 (First Aquaman in Silver Age), Adventure #260 (Origin Aquaman), Adventure #271 (Origin Luthor), Detective #230 (First Mad Hatter), Detective #231 (Original Martian Manhunter) and any origin issues are selling well at above Guide prices especially in VF or better. Books that used to be considered "minor" like Action #242 & #252 and Adventure #210 are now major keys. Some of the "minors" have that potential.

OTHER SILVER AGE: Gold Key titles such as Star Trek, Twilight Zone, Turok, Dark Shadows, and all the Hanna-Barbera titles are selling well in high grade. Hard to find issues like Flintstones #1 sell well in any grade. The appearance of Dell File copies has increased interest. These books are truly beautiful and well worth the asking prices which have been as much as 4 times Guide. I strongly recommend these to collectors and investors.

GOLDEN AGE: We have not picked up much. We have contacted numerous GA dealers nationwide and they are unanimous in their belief that Detective #27 is the key GA book and worth considerably more than either Action #1 or Marvel Comics #1. All GA Detectives and Batman would seem to be underpriced in Fine or better. All key issues of all publishers with the notable exception of Whiz #1 are in high demand. High number Fawcetts in VF or better are still a bargain. Timelys in general are not in the demand that DC's are. Golden Age Dealers are also in general agreement that Whiz #1 and Captain Marvel #1 are overpriced.

There is much more interest in titles like Looney Tunes, Bugs Bunny, Tom & Jerry, Oswald Rabbit, etc., etc., than we have seen in some time. Barks Ducks, while not hot, are at least respectable. We have sold a few Scrooges in VF at Guide. The same is true fo E. C. Crime, horror and Sci-Fi titles.

Jerry Barletta
Super Hero Universe
3064 Cochran Street
Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 583-2310

May, 1989

Demand for anything BATMAN has been steady and predictable, fueled by the enthusiasm generated in anticipation of the forthcoming movie - a demand that our chain of stores has been happy to fill. Sales of BATMAN back issues have been strong, as well as the graphic novels and trade paperbacks out. THE DARK KNIGHT in particular is a continuous best seller and the trade paperback sales of A DEATH IN THE FAMILY haven't reached their saturation point. The plethora of merchandise (keychains, toys, t-shirts, poster, etc.) have all been moving well with no end in sight as have the movie scripts, movie posters and array of magazines reporting on the film. As expected, back issue sales for BATMAN and DETECTIVE COMICS have also been strong.

Other D. C. titles that have high interest are GIL-GAMESH, and the JUSTICE LEAGUE titles, especially JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE. The art in the latter has been a fan pleaser to date. We expect the book to continue to do well.

A successful idea for D. C. has been its Janus Directive storyline. That has helped boost sales for ailing FIRESTORM, MANHUNTER and SUICIDE SQUAD.

The TSR titles have proven to be repetitive in their own way. Despite the tremendous interest in role-playing games, the comic books ADVANCED DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS, DRAGONLANCE and GAMMARAUDERS have produced poor sales.

Thank God that WANDERERS and NEW GUARDIANS are being cancelled. Those books have had nothing good going for them since they came out.

PIRANHA PRESS looks like it will be awful. We'll examine the titles in detail in our next report.

We're looking forward to the new LEGION. The old

book was getting boring and we've witnessed a dramatic drop in sales. D. C. is getting gutsy in trying out the new version.

Expect the trade paperback of THE GREATEST JOKER STORIES EVER TOLD to do well for D. C. The hardcovers sold well for our chain and we are looking to sell a lot more in this less expensive format.

DOOM PATROL hasn't been selling well. What may change that is the introduction of computer coloring with issue #26. We'll report on reader response in our next report.

Turning to MARVEL COMICS, it's evident that SHE-HULK suffers from lack of direction. Sales have remained consistently strong and we'll see what Byrne does in the future. Hopefully he'd add some character development.

Meeting with mixed reviews is the HULK storyline. Some find his Mr. Fixit identity an interesting take--off, but others don't know where its going. It bears watching.

Some of our customers are critical of Ben Grimm's transformation in FANTASTIC FOUR. Then again there are some too who were critical of his previous metamorphosis. Sales of the book have been sliding for some time. We're looking for a dramatic improvement in that department with Walt Simonson, much like what he did for THOR. We feel that the FF can come back strong.

The AVENGERS and WEST COAST AVENGERS have gone up in sales and improved vastly with John Byrne taking over. The Vision storyline is proving interesting as we delve into the Scarlet Witch. Leave it to an old pro like Byrne to take sagging characters and bring them to their peak.

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is finally reaching its proper level of sales. Mediocre. We hope to see something interesting characters like Cold Blood, in the coming months. The mutant stories are more like filler a lot of the time. Despite its shortcomings it is unlikely that MARVEL will get rid of this title. Based on the way the book is structured, its place in the MARVEL lineup is secure.

The high sales for AMAZING SPIDERMAN are a plaudit to the time and effort obviously spent on the book. Its a tribute to the team that sales on the bi-weekly book have been excellent. We find that both collectors and non-collectors alike are purchasing it. We'd like to see Michelinie take on the other two Spiderman titles as well and do for them what he's done for AMAZING SPIDERMAN. Both SPECTACULAR SPIDERMAN and WEB OF SPIDERMAN could use an upgrade.

Wolverine's sales have dropped off after a hopeful beginning. It is extremely poorly written. The Madripoor situation didn't hold together. Hopefully the new writer will get some fresh ideas.

The art doesn't work with THE X-MEN. We'd rather see Art Adams or George Perez doing it. It needs more defined structure and backgrounds. The Rogue/Carol Danvers persona isn't working.

A book that has been given a lift is NEW MUTANTS. Now that Magneto has turned back into a villain he's not so boring and useless as before. We hope that this breath of fresh air will reclaim some of its lost readership.

Ron Lim continues to do an excellent job for SILVER SURFER. His style is very well suited for the Surfer's space adventures.

We're looking for Marvel's entire annual line to do well, as it did last summer. Some of the back-up stories are not good, but they are different and deserve some credit, despite not being a tremendous asset to the book.

DAREDEVIL is doing okay in sales. Definitely a factor to consider as to why he's not doing better is the complaint that Romita's art lacks solidity and substance. We feel a change in that department would help to rebuild its following.

A big seller for MARVEL has been its MARVEL UNIVERSE UPDATE. It's a good book for fans to have and we see it continuing to do well. The art is good and sales reflect how well-received it is with fans.

A surprise that's bringing in increasing readership for MARVEL is the title WHAT IF. It should be interesting to watch things happen. So far they're doing well with it and we hope it continues.

Sales are excellent for THE PUNISHER. In high demand are it's back issues too. We're a bit dubious if the film can fully capitalize on the character since he appears without the familiar costume. It remains to be seen if it will do well at the box office.

Bisques and figurines may prove to be a good market for MARVEL. We'll look forward to its being well-received by fans. Given the price tag on the mugs however, that may not be a success for MARVEL. Six bucks is a bit stiff.

DARK HORSE continues to have winners with both its ALIENS and PREDATOR. Sales are high. With the advent of color, sales will be even more solid.

Rising from the near bottom of the Independents (BLACKTHRONE and QUALITY share the dubious distinction of attracting very little readership), ETERNITY has gotten quite a bit of notoriety with the release of the controversial UNCENSORED MOUSE - a book that Disney issued a cease and desist order on. This should have an impact and raise sales. NINJA HIGH SCHOOL still does okay for ETERNITY. Sales have dropped off for DINOSAURS FOR HIRE. ROBOTECH THE SENTINELS sells continuously well and SCIMIDAR has picked up in sales with its good girl art.

In need of an art boost (it looks muddy) is NOW COMICS' book TERMINATOR. It's not doing as well as when it started. THE GREEN HORNET should be an interesting book. We're going to keep an eye on it.

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES from MIRAGE have dipped somewhat in sales but given the vast marketing aimed at the public this summer, expect sales to be stimulated. What we think would be the way to go is for the book to come out in color.

Nanstar's Tim Vigil continues to propel sales of FAUST upwards for all of our stores. His excellent work on the book is reflected in solid sales. This was anticipated by BEST AMERICAN COMICS and we're not disappointed.

Despite pre-publication interest generated for VIZ COMICS' TITLE FIST OF THE NORTHSTAR, the actual sales of the book fell below retailer's expectations.

LUM looks like it could be an interesting seller. We'll get back to you as we monitor it.

CALIBER is a new company that we'll be able to comment more on in our next report.

Good girl art ala Dave Stevens in INNOVATION is working for that company. Including titles that have been sought-after from a couple of years ago is another plus.

Seth Spivak - Manager
Richard Colossi - Owner
Video Ventures Comics & Video
777 Hempstead Turnpike
Franklin Square, NY 11010
(516) 488-4105

May, 1989

DC COMICS: The product of the year without any doubt is Batman. At this point anything with Batman on it will sell from pins and t-shirts to any comics and trade paperbacks. Batman is so popular that we have managed to sell all sorts of odd '70 titles that featured him on the cover such as DC Special. Even titles like World's Finest and Brave & Bold are moving. I don't think you'll move them for premium prices - but they are selling for us at $1.25 - $1.50 a shot. It should be remembered that before the recent Batman craze, these titles wouldn't even sell in the $.50 boxes. All back issues of Detective are also hot and selling well. Issues of Batman, the title itself, are impossible to keep in stock. We have sold our entire inventory of Batman back issues and we have been purchasing them. You have to figure on an increase of 25% - 30% on all issues of Batman and about 10% - 20% on Detective, even more on Detectives from

the 60's. Dark Knight is hot once again. We sold our last copies of Dark Knight #1 for $35 and will probably go for $40 when we restock. #2 is about right where it is as this really isn't a hard issue and #3 & #4 sell a little above guide. Prices: Detective #598 $5, #599 $2 — last months Batman $1.50, Batman "A DEATH IN THE FAMILY" Part 2 - $12, Part 4 - $7. The Batman movie and all the press coverage should continue to keep Batman in the spotlight and popular through the summer — as it better, as all stores have big dollars tied up in pre-orders of merchandise and comics in the coming months.

Superman has been picking up some momentum again and has not suffered with Byrne's leaving as far as we can tell. In fact, the recent storyline has caused some people to pick it up for the first time. As Perez picks things up, things should continue to be strong — so for Action, Advs. & Superman — steady as she goes. By the way, let it be known that we must have been the only store that found Action Weekly to be a success. Until the very end, it sold better or just as well as Byrne's team-up Action and it sold that well on a weekly basis. Unfortunately, there is no demand for back issues of the title. We have seen some back issue sales on Man of Steel and Superman recently, but nothing to warrant any price changes.

TITLES WITH DISAPPOINTING SALES, NO BACK-ISSUE APPEAL, AND HIGH PROSPECTS AS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES: Blackhawk, Checkmate, Doc Savage, Dr. Fate, Mister Miracle, Unknown Soldier, Manhunter, Hero Hotline, Dragonlance, Starman, Advanced Dungeons & Dragons, New Gods, Phantom, Spectre, Captain Atom & Firestorm.

The biggest surprise of the above list has to be Dr. Fate which was expected to be a "hot" title or at least a solid seller. I was very surprised to see just how low sales of it were for us. Of special note is that the new "discriminating" DC reader is not like the readers of old that will try a title for more than a couple of issues if they don't take to it immediately. We used to have a gradual fall in readership, now when a book takes the plunge, it usually does so by leaps of 40% - 50% loss of readership in a single issues time.

Although Teen Titans is not a hot comic anymore, it is holding its own as solid DC seller since Perez returned. Before his return it would have been listed on the endangered species list. There was a slight demand for back issues when he first returned, but there isn't one anymore — guess that's what we get when DC can't keep the momentum going with on-time delivery of a product.

Flash continues to be an above-average DC seller. No price increases on recent back issues. Silver Age Flash is a very good seller with the early issues impossible to locate, especially in higher grades. They are always requested at the cons, but we seldom find any issues.

Justice League still continues to be a hot DC seller as a new title and is still strong in back issues. Your price on #1 is a bit high for this area, but we can sell #2 slightly above your listed value. All Silver Age JLA's are hot, moving in any condition, with high grace books hard to come by. Most of our stock has been cleaned out at the local con and we haven't been able to restock. JLE #1 sold very well and sales on #2 were equally strong. We've been selling #1 for $1.50 because we ordered extra to sell at that price, but I don't think there would be any price resistance at $2.

Wonder Woman is a mid-range DC seller that you would hope would be a little stronger, but simply isn't. It supports its space and sells occasionally as a back issue. Silver Age issues aren't usually requested, but we have actually sold a few issues that have been sitting around for a while. No great demand, but they may be selling because they are one of the few DC Silver Age titles still priced very low.

Hellblazer continues to sell at the same pace it has for the past year. It and its companion titles like Sandman sell a reasonable amount of copies, but are more important because they sell to a clientele that in the past would not have been purchasing comics. Another title in that category would be Swamp Thing. These books are important because they appeal to the more mature reader, as well as the horror reader. They help to bridge the gap to new readers and provide a quality source of entertainment for the adult reader. Green Arrow continues to be a solid seller with an adequate amount of back issue activity. We just received Hawk & Dove #1 and sales did very well. This should be a solid seller for a while.

Legion picked up slightly in new sales with the return of Giffen and may actually prove to be strong when restarted with #1. Back issue sales are non-existent. Early Adventure Comics with the Legion sell occasionally, but the supply seems to out-do the demand at this point. Legion '89 sold very well as a first issue and had a significant fall afterwards, but is a solid seller still. #1 sells for $2.00.

Animal Man had the potential to be a hot title. Sales pick up with each issue and back issues sales are good at around $1.75 - $2.00, #5 is a seller at $2.50. I actually paid $3.00 to get a personal copy of #1. It was the type of title that wouldn't be ordered heavy, so there is actually the chance it could become hot if readership continues to increase in the manner it has. Grant Morrison has also managed to breath life back into the Doom Patrol and readership has been increasing on that title with his issues selling at $2.00 as back issues. This is of special note because it isn't often that DC titles begin to pick up readers as a new series progresses. It would be wise to watch for any titles involving Grant Morrison in the future.

The Question has also picked up in sales recently and is a solid seller for us. This is one of those titles that appeals to the maturer readers, but they don't even have to be horror fans, so sales are a bit higher than Hellblazer and Sandman.

Black Orchid did very well for us and we currently price #1 - $4.50 an #2 & #3 - $4.00. Cosmic Odyssey #1 was up to $4.00. Gilgamesh II #1 sold very well with #2 doing adequate. Invasion did very well for us with #1 - #3 priced at $4.00 now. Prisoner was not a big seller for us as we anticipated — back issues at $4.00 each. The Aquaman Special sold very well for us.

As for the DC titles that I haven't mentioned and are already marked for cancellation, we all know that back issue sales are non-existent or from the 3/$1.00 boxes.

All DC Silver Age sells very well in all conditions including titles such as Green Lantern, Hawkman, Atom, as well as the more offbeat titles. We have seen a demand for DC humor titles especially Dean Martin & Jerry Lewis, Jerry Lewis & Bob Hope — these all sell above guide. We have also noticed a demand for older DC war comics such as GI Combat and Our Fighting Forces. DC Annuals and Giants are also asked for across the board.

MARVEL COMICS: Without any doubt the hottest title for us is still Amazing Spiderman. Sales of that title surpass even X-Men. Back issue sales of all numbers are hot. This includes early Silver Age straight through issues from the 1970's. A 20% increase in price wouldn't effect back issue sales at all. Although not up to Batman, demand for this title is about as strong as you usually find. HOT! Web sales are very strong, but not near Amazing levels. Back issues are also solid sellers. The same goes for Spectacular. You will not find a mint back-issue tagged at less than $1.50 and the sales are there. All Silver Age Amazing are very hot and sell immediately, especially in high grades.

Captain America, Daredevil, & Thor are currently solid new issue sellers and have a reasonable amount of back issue activity. Captain #100 - #110, Daredevil #1 - #20, and Journey Into Mystery will sell above guide especially in higher grades. However, back issue sales are evident even for the formally unmovable 1970's issues.

The Avengers books are both doing very well since Byrne took over. New issue sales are up and have caused a revived interest in back issues — going back to the 1970's also. This is very significant because previously back issue sales have been limited to early Silver Age or the past year. It seems that collectors are beginning to try to fill in runs again. It was about time for the market to cycle back to that practice and it seems to be happening. Byrne new back issues sell at $1.50. Avengers Spotlight sales are very low compared to the other two books (it

sells 1/3 the amount of copies) and unless Marvel's streamlining the titles of the three is successful, I don't think Marvel will keep this on the schedule much longer. However, their new marketing strategy was a wise move and may pay off.

G. I. Joe is dead. No back issue sales, new sales are very low. I'll look for it's demise within the year unless there is some sort of dramatic market reversal. We don't purchase back issues because no one ever asks for them and the later issues of the series have been banished to the $ .50 boxes as of this month. As a side note Transformers makes G. I. Joe look like X-Men.

Speaking of X-Men, it continues to be one of the hottest new titles. Sales continue to be very strong. Sales of back issues from around the #140's and up are still very strong. However, sales on #95 and up are very slow. There is still demand for #94. X-Men crossovers still do very well. There is price resistance for the higher priced, often reprinted issues. We haven't had much of the Silver Age X-Men for a bit, so I can't say how well they are moving, but the few issues in lower condition that have straggled in have moved.

X-Factor sales are very strong new issues as well as back issues. Classic X-Men are a middle range seller, but consistent, which means that it is a good money maker for Marvel. Back issue sales are also strong. New Mutants isn't faring as well and sells about as well as Classic and doesn't have the back issue demand the other titles have. Although still a solid middle range seller, this title should be doing better.

Marvel Comics is another mid-range seller that will probably pick up again as Marvel has decided to feature Wolverine again. #1 - $3.00, #2 - $2.50, #3 - #10 & #18 - $2.00, #11 - #17 & #19 up - $1.50.

Wolverine sales have been excellent and this book is hot as a new title as well as a back issue seller. #1 - $5.00, #2 - $3.00, with the Hulk crossovers at $2.50 and the rest at $2.00. Havok & Wolverine has done very well for us, but not as well as we originally intended. Still, it has been selling consistently as a back issue with #1 at $4.50 - $5.00 and #2 at $4.00.

Excalibur is hot with strong back issue sales. #1 - $4, #2 - $2.50, and #3 up at $2.00. These prices may have to be adjusted upwards, because we ran out of all our back issues. A first issue one-shot sells for $4.00 as a reprint and original at $8.00.

She-Hulk #1 was very hot and the series is hot. #1 sells for $2.50, with #2 & #3 at $2.00. This appears to be very promising and most everyone seems to like the tone of the book.

Punisher still remains very hot. Back issues start at $2.00 (including last months issue) and is probably due for about a 20% increase across the board. The mini-series is in demand with the first issue selling for $25.00. War Journal is also in demand with #1 at $4.00, #2 & #3 at $2.50, the Wolverine issues at $3.00 - $4.00 and the rest at $2.00.

Sales on Alf are almost non existent, this title was selling very well a few months back. #1 still sells occasionally.

Alpha Flight sales are still low and still in the danger zone for a Marvel title. We have had some back issue activity, but no price increase.

Epic comic sales are all very low and will probably be axed soon with the exception of Groo which still remains a consistent (although not astonishing) seller.

I really don't know why Power Pack hasn't been cancelled since there are no back issue sales and very low new issue sales. I don't think that this is even reaching the younger reader market that Marvel is shooting for.

Fantastic Four sales picked up when the original FF returned and even back issues picked up a bit. Back issue sales are still sluggish on this title, but that should change as soon as word gets out that Simonson is taking over.

Incredible Hulk is a solid seller under Peter David's direction and even shows some back issue sales. We just picked up a mint #102 and have it priced at $35 — will let you know if it sells next report.

Conan sales picked up a bit but is still below the level that you'd think Marvel would keep it going. I guess we just don't have the audience.

Silver Surfer continues as a mid-range seller. It should be doing better — there is some back issue activity.

What If sales were excellent — the original series sells whenever we acquire any and the new series is doing very well — $2.00 as a back issue.

Iron Man is another mid-range seller that has had much back issue activity. For some reason, all of our back issues have sold out and are in demand. #1 is very hot especially in high grades. It doesn't seem unreasonable that it should hit the $100.00 mark soon. Early issues in high grade sell above guide — this series must be due for about 20% increase.

Moon Knight has started off very strong. Dr. Strange is picking up in sales with Thomas taking over. There is a moderate demand for back issues of Dr. Strange & Sub-Mariner. Cloak & Dagger sales are below accepted Marvel range. Sales on the 'Nam have dropped dramat cally with little back issue demand here. We've lost 60% - 70% of the new 'Nam readership over the past year. The British Marvel comics (Dragon's Claw, Death's Head) have no market here at all.

All early Silver Age Marvel's are in constant demand and are hot and bringing above guide prices in key grades. There is also a great demand for the lesser 60's titles such as Tales Of Suspense, Tales To Astonish, and Strange Tales. These sell above guide in all grades because they are still so cheap in the guide. We also have a huge following interested in the pre-hero Atlas monster comics.

We have heard of many crazy prices for mint Marvel first issues that we'll look forward to seeing you settle. We'd also like to point out that we've heard of some problems dealing with the ethics of some of the bigger dealers and their not identifying some of their key books as having had restoration work done. Without mentioning names, we hope that you set people straight on the matter. Being that the owner of our shop is a person skilled in restoration taught by the master Sarill, we are used to being around restored books and identifying them. We have no problem with restoration work, since we perform it, but we do object to anyone who sells restored books without identifying them as such to the buyer. This is obviously a problem within our industry that must be dealt with, and dealt with firmly. We have the 'wall-street" investors coming into our market and although they have the money to bring the prices up as they have been doing, they don't have much knowledge of the comics from a collectible standpoint. It would be unwise for a few unscrupulous dealers to be allowed to take advantage of these people which would harm the reputation of the business as a whole in the future.

INDEPENDENTS: Sales are almost non-existent. No back issue demand at all. Although, First continues to put out a quality product, and I enjoy and support its line, it is impossible to get these books the support they deserve. I don't know how First manages to survive with their books selling at these low levels, but I'm glad that they do

The only title with any sales from Comico is the Elementals, it sells about as well as a mid to low range DC title at this point. No back issue demand.

Although Dark Horse puts out a superior product, sales just aren't there on most of them. Flaming Carrot cont nues to have its loyal audience. Aliens was actually a hot com c and continues to sell very well for an independent. With some of the comics they have planned they still may manage to capture some market share. Look for the second Aliens and the Predator comic to show some promise.

Eclipse had some hope with Grell's Bond and Barker's Books Of Blood, but they fail to maintain any momentum because of their lack of releasing product when the customers are looking for it. The rest of their line has no sales whatsoever

Mirage and the Turtles have slowed down once again, but the last time this happened they launched a marketing campaign and picked up everything well. We' have to wait and see.

Honeymooners has been perhaps our best selling independent. We look forward to them putting out issues on schedule once again.

The "adult" as in not for kids line of comics (as opposed to the adult for mature readers line) has been selling very well for us. Black Kiss did excellent with continued sales on all reprinted issues. Faust sold very well for us. Cherry leads all sales in this area, as we sell out of the whole run several times over every couple months when we restock the whole series.

Although only comic related through the Rocketeer, we have a large following for any Betty Page items and the product related to her has been selling very well.

The market has been excellent overall and we foresee that trend to continue into the summer months.

Tom Mattevi
Comics Cards And Collectables
Canton, Ohio

May, 1989

It's springtime, we've made it through the slim times of winter and now must prepare for the avalanche of material which will spew forth from the publishers. Here is how things look from my store.

NEW ISSUES

DC: BATMAN . . . What else can be said about the last few months? Whether you are discussing new comics or back issues "Batman" is selling. Just about any title featuring "Batman" is selling including: "BATMAN FAMILY", "BRAVE AND THE BOLD", "WORLD'S FINEST", and of course his two feature titles. However, contrary to popular belief, there is life outside the "Batman" titles. Post Byrne "Superman" is surviving and gaining momentum. Initially some readers left the book when Mr. Byrne departed. But many stayed and now readers who left in protest to the changes instituted by Mr. Byrne, are slowly returning and finding a highly readable and enjoyable character has emerged. "Green Arrow" is one of the most consistently well-written books out there and yet sells on the low side. Granted, it is written for the more mature reader, but highly recommend it to those mature readers who do not read it. It would be a major blow to quality books if this one were to be cancelled due to its low sales. Other well-written but borderline sellers from DC are: "Blackhawk", "Dr. Fate", and "Question". The latter may be too cerebral for the average reader. "Hawk and Dove" has just premiered as of my writing this, the first issue looked good and read well, but it's still too soon to tell on that one. "Huntress" looks like it could be something to keep an eye on, it could develop into a hot property quickly. "JLA" and its new sister title "JLE" are both selling well and should continue to do so. I can't understand why "Legion" is cancelled only to start, yet again, as a new title. Granted sales are not that earth- shattering on this title, but if they are low enough to warrant cancellation, why try again? "L. E. G. I. O. N. '89" has developed into a nice little title but probably won't develop much more of a readership than the "Legion" title. "Flash" seems to be floundering as are "Wonder Woman" "Miracle Man", "New Guardians", and "New Gods". "New Titans" would probably be selling a lot better if they started coming out on schedule. "Phantom", "Starman", "Checkmate", and "Suicide Squad" are all moderate sellers that also happen to be books with the potential to sell more. Unfortunately, the glut of titles out there tends to discourage some readers with limited funds from trying new titles.

MARVEL: "Avengers" is generally a good seller has been heating up in the last few months. Marvel's idea to change "Solo Avengers" to "Avengers Spotlight" and "West Coast Avengers" to "Avengers West Coast" may seem cosmetic, but by accentuating the "Avengers" portion of their titles it should increase the sales on the books. John Byrne's work on the "West Coast" isn't hurting sales any either. The "Spider-man" titles are still selling quite well as are the "X-men" (and related titles), "Wolverine", "Punisher", "Punisher War Journal", and "Excalibur". Reed and Sue are finally back where they belong, and sales on the "Fantastic Four" are already starting to increase. The new artist on "New Mutants" is also helping to increase sales on that book which was beginning to show signs of abandonment. "Nam", "Semper Fi", "Powerline", "St. George", "Dr. Zero", and all the "G. I. Joe" titles are in various stages of death. "She Hulk" has been well received but the asides to the audience seem to be wearing thin with most readers quickly.

INDEPENDENTS: Gladstone titles continue to sell quite well, and stories by Don Rosa always sell better still. "Grendel" and "Whisper" titles which once sold well are presently quite dead "Astro Boy", "Speed Racer", and "Racer X" also seem to be decomposing. "Real Ghostbusters" and "Slimer" are still selling quite well. "Maze Agency" which I feel is one of the best detective comics around has been put on hiatus by COMICO. Go figure. HOT: "Batman", "Detective", "Excalibur", "Punisher" and "X men . WARM: "Captain America", "Green Arrow", "Spider man", "Justice League", "Iron Man", and "Incredible Hulk". COLD: "G. I. Joe", "Semper Fi", "Powerline", "Transformers", "The 'Nam", and "Alpha Flight".

BACK ISSUES Back issue sales in general have been picking up of late for no apparent reason. Perhaps the economy has finally recovered enough that some people are beginning to loosen up and buy a few frivolities again. Back issue sales generally are reflective of new issue sales, in that what is hot in one is generally hot in the other one, so the following should come as no shock.

DC: "Batman" is hot! Any title he has even remotely appeared in is increasing in value. "Joker" and "Robin" (either one) appearances are increasing in value even quicker. Demand for "Detective Comics" #526, which features the death of "Jason's" parents (back when they were still aerialists, remember?) is quite high and selling for $10.00 and above. Demand has also increased for "Teen Titans" and "New Teen Titans" featuring "Robin". Outside of "Batman" there is little back issue activity. "Justice League" old and new is selling well as are the various "Superman" titles.

MARVEL: "X-Men", "Spider-man", "Excalibur", and "Punisher" still sell quite well as back issues, but the real surprise is "Savage She-Hulk". Her new title has generated interest in her old title and driven the price of issue #1 from $1.50 up to the current mark of $5.00 and still rising.

Well that's about as much as I know this time around. Till next time, take care.

D. W. Howard & Lyn Winter
Super Giant Books & Comics
North and South Carolina

May, 1989

What a difference three years makes! If anyone else is keeping count, it was only about three years ago, March, 1986 to be exact, that Dark Knight first arrived. Dark Knight #4 came out in time for labor day of 1986. At the time, the major effect was to make Miller's previously unbelievable RONIN move again. But all of us in the hobby collectors, dealers, investors, and writers about comics, were mostly talking about Frank Miller and not about Batman. Now it is May, 1989, and Batman is about all anyone talks about!

Our sales of new copies of Batman is today 15 times what they were three years ago! Let's express it another way: If, in spring of 1986, someone had told us that within three years we'd be selling more Batman than X-Men, we'd have laughed ourselves silly! Let's express it yet another way: Back in the early and mid 1980's, at Super Giant, when we got in recent VF to M copies of Batman or Detective, we didn't even bag'em up! All then recent issues of those titles, except for special artists, went into our cheapie boxes at

$ .25 each! Needless to say, it doesn't work that way anymore!

What happened? Not Miller-mania, but Batmania! Those of us who have observed the hobby for a period of time know that what goes around comes around. For a while, collectors will be hot for anything new and different. This helped fuel the B&W explosion a few years ago.

At other times, emphasis will switch to the old standards. Since last summer, we've been in the latter sort of era. You'll remember that a lot of long running titles (Captain America, Iron Man, JLA, etc.) experienced increased interest then. Batman picked up a lot of momentum from that, and there was a lot of increased awareness because of the approaching 50th anniversary (which is now here) and the much publicized Batman movie (which soon will be).

But more than anything else, people got sensitive about Batman because of the hysteria over the 4-part "Death In The Family" sequence. (Hereafter referred to as the Dead Robins.) Look at it logically: sales on the new Batman titles had been steadily increasing for months, sales on back issue Batman and Detective were up. Most comic collectors are on some dealer's reserve list for new comics, so most comic collectors who wanted the 4 Dead Robins got them when they came out. And of course, we all know that Robin might die in the series, and in fact we all had a chance to call and vote on the issue!

There was a lot of hype about the Death Of Robin; however, and a lot of it was quickie journalism that to a certain extent misrepresented actual events. We saw one short newspaper story that said "Robin: R. I. P., 1940 - 1988". A lot of people thought the Robin who died was the original Robin, not Jason Todd. And let's face it, those of us who read Dark Knight (practically everybody!) knew that Jason would bite the dust at some point. The result was that a lot of souvenir hunters from outside the hobby came in to buy Dead Robins! And to be truthful, very few of them stayed around to get any other comics. But their demand for the Dead Robins drove prices up to astronomical levels! Within the hobby, it caused a lot of sales resistance to collapse. After all, if you see your favorite dealer, ask, and get fifty bucks for a month-old Batman, you don't really feel like a dollar or two is too much for a five-year-old model.

These, then, are some of the reasons for Batmania. Now, a lot of people have been predicting that Bat prices will go up when the Batman movie comes out. But a lot of people are too late, prices are already up! (Parenthetically, we will point out that historically, movies and TV shows have had little impact on back issue prices. Check the prices on Superman, Wonder Woman, and Incredible Hulk before and after the movie and TV shows). Just about any Batman or Detective will bring a dollar, even in G-VF; VF to M copies of modern ($ .30 and up cover price) will go two to three dollars. Since the Joker killed Robin and shot Batgirl, his appearances sell for premiums: Three to five dollars for a high-grade Joker cover (and one dealer we know asks $10).

So prices on Batstuff are already up, but we are pretty sure they won't go up much higher because of the movie. On the other hand, we're sure that in a year or two, everyone will forget the order these events came in, and the movie will get the credit.

As for early 1960's and late 1950's Batman and Detective: well, whatever price you are used to will seem high, but you'll probably have to pay it if you want the books. We have noticed less of an effect on Golden Age Batman appearances, but then, these are pretty expensive already. But we are looking at double-digit prices for nice copies of most $ .10 and $ .12 cover price Batbooks! When we start talking about 30 and 50 dollar prices, and the 1950's issues are heading in that direction, that is going to make a lot of the lower-grade Golden Age stuff look cheap at the $80 to $150 range. And a $200 VG Batman is going to make a $80 VG More Fun or Adventure look pretty cheap in turn.

Some stuff is still too cheap: The Star Spangled Comics issues with Robin stories, for example, along with books I ke Detective #39 and #40 (the 2nd and 4th appearances of Robin, respectively). Also, Real Fact #5, with a Batman and Robin cover and inside article about the creation of these characters, is probably lasting at only about half what it should be worth. Notice also that the more recent World's Finest and Brave And Bold have not jumped as much as Batman and Detective. We think that prices on all Batman-related comics will hold value and have at least moderate increases for the next 2 to 3 years. If you want to buy in cheap, it's already too late, but we think 1991 prices will be enough to make today's levels look like solid values.

On the other hand, there is a new group (call them the new Bat Gang) on their ways to become one of the movie. More tee-shirts, posters, figurines, toys, key chains, etc. If you want this stuff yourself, go ahead and get it. But if you're thinking of investing in Bat items of this nature, we think you'll probably lose your shirt.

On the Non-Bat front, that emphasis on the old standards we mentioned earlier is still with us. First appearance issues and #1's of characters like Iron Man, Daredevil, Green Lantern, Captain America, Doom Patrol, and other of that vintage are probably still listed at less than they'll go for. Early issues of these old favorites are even more underrated. Antique and flea market dealers regularly ask for and get between $2 and $5 for virtually any $ .12 Super Hero Comic, even as low as fair to good. While we're not saying us comic dealers should follow suit, it seems that fair to good $ .12 cover comics ought to be worth a dollar. That's soon going to be the minimum cover price on a new comic. And realistically, a NM-M

$ .12 cover Super Hero comic ought to be at least double digits, especially the DC's, which were not saved as avidly as the Marvels during the 1962 - 1968 period. As the antique dealers will tell you, all of these are over 25 years old.

One discouraging note among the old favorites is X-Men. You heard it from Super Giant first, here in the Overstreet Update last year, but now the other dealers are beginning to echo our analysis.

X-Men 94 to about 150 are nowhere as hot as they used to be. The Classic X-Men reprints are killing them dead! It seems that about everyone who could afford those premium X-Men has already got them. That leaves those who don't want the comics, and those who "Just Want To Read" them. The "Just Want To Read" crowd is going after the reprints. We have lowered prices on these comics by 25 to 35%. There is still demand for the X-Men in the $2 to $5 range, and we also find that most of those pesky Classic X-Men issues will sell for that kind of money. (We think if you are holding X-Men up to about #150 or so for investment, and you can get as much as half current Overstreet for them, you should sell if you're ahead. There is broad enough demand for these books that they won't go the way of G. I. Joe, but we think prices will go down from here). The Marvel Masterworks reprints of the X-Guys has also decreased demand for originals of X-Men #1 thru 20, though not as much as the decreased demand for those newer numbers. While the hardcover masterworks of Amazing Spider-Man, Fantastic Four, and Avengers haven't done anyone except Marvel any good, the effect does not seem to be as widespread as in X-Men.

Speaking of that comparison with G. I. Joe, if anyone is wondering where all those 8 to 12 year olds who were hot for Joe a few years ago went, we'll tell you. They are now 16 to 20 year olds, and they now have a taste for the macho comics like Punisher, Wolverine, and yes, Batman. We feel that these guys who were kids and are now pushing adulthood liked Joe because it seemed tough and mean. Now a little older and more world-wise, they still have an interest in, as one teenager put it, "... Heroes that don't take no xxxx off nobody!" We think that accounts for a lot of the Pun's popularity, and as soon as the editors of Comics Journal notice it, we expect to see a scathing article about it.

On the Non-DC and Marvel front, things are slow. The Terminator seems to attract some of the Punisher fans, and TMNT and Cerebus bi-weekly reprints are beginning to zap the early Cerebus values just like the reprints are zapping X-Men. But for most of the independent titles, sales are down. Simultaneously, there is a lot of interest in certain titles by certain collectors. We are regularly selling more different titles of independents than ever before, but selling a lot fewer copies of each title! Remember a few years back when just about every collector in America would at least buy a #1 of anything? (We won't try to differentiate between those who were giving the alternates a chance and those who were hoping for a value increase). At that time, we could count on heavy sales of just about any #1. It's just not that way anymore. We reiterate the concept of a minority favorite! We have a regular clientele for at least most of the comics now published, but the clientele for any

given alternate title is small, and may be only one person. Our only concern here is how small a print run some publishers can live with. The people who like them swear by them, but that's not a whole lot of people.

When we look at general oldies, we see all kinds of mixed signals. Low grade Dell Funnies are moving right out of the $.50 to $1 range, but they're not going to collectors! They're going to parents with small children, who fondly remember Tom and Jerry, Tweety, Bugs Bunny, etc., from their own childhoods. To a certain extent, this is also true of the Harveys. The Gladstone reprints have helped to satisfy the "user" market for Disneys, but we still sell cheap copies of the (cheaper) non-Barks issues. Collectible-wise, the $.10, $.12 and $.15 movie, TV, non-DC/Marvel Super Hero, and General Adventure type comics continue to move right out. We think ACG deserves watching, but aren't quite ready to predict an upward movement on them yet. We feel the same way about limited edition prints, hardcover comics, etc. The ones with 1,000 and less limitations do not seem too high at current prices.

We'd also like to suggest that at least the guide and update begin to list the way you tell reprints among the various titles that have been reprinted. A few years ago, the practice was so uncommon (except for Classics Illustrated) that just about any dealer or collector could tell a beginner which was which. Now we have so many of them, from Adventures to Xenozoic tales, that ready reference in at least some of the Overstreet Publications is needed.

Alan and Marsha Giroux
All About Books & Comics
Phoenix, AZ

May, 1989

We have just mailed in June orders for new comics for our three stores and the biggest question on our minds is "How much more expensive can the product get?" As an example, the new Dr. Strange/Dr. Doom graphic novel would sell fantastically at $5.95, but no, now retailers are asked to purchase a $17.95 non-returnable hardback that will take plenty of "hard-sell" to move off the shelves. Items such as these receive plenty of push (i. e. double faced on our graphic novel shelf, featured on the check-out counter up front, prominently displayed in our glass display cases, etc.) but still customers are leery, hedgy, and downright repulsed at spending their weeks dollar allotment on one item, even if it is a nice product. Thus, retailers such as ourselves now turn in much more conservative orders on those items that the "big two" somehow misconceive as being hot, sought-after products in comic book stores. Please Marvel and DC, listen up! We hear many more negative comments than positive concerning these items. We would, for example, have turned in an order triple the amount on the new Punisher hardback, if it had been in a more affordable format.

Perhaps DC's "success" at the hardback Batman products has given birth to this deluge of other items. We question the over used term "success" due to the fact that the Batman books were under ordered by retailers to begin with, and reorders were entirely unavailable.

The Batman craze is a fluke; there is no doubt about it. Who would have thought that the Batman comic would ever be outselling X-Men? It's doing just that and there doesn't seem to be an end in sight. Bat T-shirts, buttons, keychains and posters are selling so well we wonder sometimes if we are running a novelty store or a comic outlet!

Batman Silver Age? Same old story! Just impossible to keep in stock! Early Detectives have really picked up since there are so few early Batman comics available. A VG copy of Detective #140 (first appearance of the Riddler) was purchased in a recent golden age collection and sold for $150.00 within hours after placing it in the display case. And remember the old Joker series from '66? Well, that retailers couldn't give away a few years back? There is not one left in stock. Most were sold for $2.50 to $3.00 each. One customer told us he paid $15.00 for issue #1 from a store in L. A. We are also constantly refilling Batman Family and Batman the Outsiders back issues.

Okay, so every Special Advisor will be reporting phenomenal sales on this character. But why this sudden surge of mass appeal? For one, DC has done an excellent PR job in promoting the new Batman movie, which has been reported on in everything from the trendy Entertainment Tonight T. V. series to the more stodgy Wall Street Journal. And secondly, and probably more importantly, Batman is definitely an 80's style character, doling out his own brand of Bernard Goetz vigilante style justice in an age when law and order are rapidly being replaced by crack and violence. It is perhaps (preachy as it sounds) this human element that has skyrocketed the popularity and importance of this character. And, as one customer put it succinctly, he enjoys Batman because "he's not a mutant and he's not an alien from Krypton."

Aside from the incredible sales on Batman books the greatest advantage of all this "Batmania" is the tremendous public attention it is bringing to the comic field.

It is difficult to refer to other good DC sellers when the numbers are considerably behind the Batman, but Dr. Fate, New Teen Titans, and Advanced Dungeons & Dragons are the second stringers here in new comics.

As for DC back issues, our Superman related Silver Age stock is massively depleted. We wish we could say it was because of numerous sales, but actually it is because of one large, single purchase by an independently wealthy man opening a small Superman museum in Metropolis, Illinois! Other key DC Silver Age that has sold recently: The Atom, mint condition of any numbers bringing double guide, several copies of Brave & Bold #28 selling in every condition, a Good copy of J. L. A. #1 for $45.00, and any 80 page Giants in any condition.

Marvels, as usual, continue to soar in sales with McFarlane's Spiderman having the greatest increase in sales since last report. Amazing Spiderman #300 sells in the Valley for about $8.50 with the rest of McFarlane issues ranging between $3.50 and $5.00. First issues of Moon Knight and Dr. Strange were unexpected sellout hits, with prices at $4.00 each when they filter in.

The Punisher and Punisher War Journal have jumped in sales, possibly because of interest in the Punisher movie due this summer. And yet again the presence of Wolverine makes another issue hot.

P. W. J. #6 now retails for around $6.00. Number one of the regular series hovers at $8.00.

X-Men sales continues to fluctuate, but sales have increased overall on new and back issues since last report. A VF set of #94 and Giant Size #1 sold recently for $100.00, and number 200 - 225 are increasingly harder to keep in stock.

The most auspicious of all Marvel sales are those dealing with key number one's of the Silver Age. Particularly at our main location, there seems to be two distinct groups of Marvel purchasers: those who want only new Marvel releases, and those whom are only interested in product between the years 1961 - 1969. The following is a list of some key items that sold from December, 1988 to April, 1989. Spiderman #1 in VG, $600.00, Avengers #1 in G+, $100.00, Daredevil #1 in G+, $75.00, Daredevil #1 in G-, $48.00, Fantastic Four #1 in VG+, $700.00, Hulk #5 & #6 in G+, $35.00 each, Ironman #1 in VF-, $70.00, and Ironman #1 in VF $75.00. Surprisingly, more Golden Age has surfaced in this region the first quarter of this year than all of last year combined! Not surprising is the fact that all the super-hero oriented comics in the various collections were the first to go. Captain Marvel's, Captain America's, Batman's (need we really mention this title?), Superman's and Wonder Woman's top the list of sales. Amazingly to us, the eclectic hard-to-find items are the sitters. How often does one find a Dell Dick Tracy #1 or National's Mr. District Attorney #1? Not often we're sure, but still they sit.

And literally impossible to keep in stock are Classics Illustrated. A beautiful collection of 110 originals was purchased by one of our staff members one morning, and the entire set was sold that same day to a customer who "fell in love with the covers." Talk about turnover.

The last topic to touch base on is how the media has been responsive to our industrious hobby and business lately. Of course, we've discussed the Batman phenomenon, but how about MTV's review of Marvel's Akira, which picked up sales of this laggard one, or their report on the pending law suit between heavy metal's Guns & Roses and Revolutionary Comics "Rock and Roll Comics", which blew sales on this book through the roof! (We sold over 200 copies of this b & w in 10 days!) And Entertainment Tonight's spotlight on Eternity's "Uncensored Mouse"? Oy Vey, could we have used an extra 200 copies on that book! Call after call came on this one the day after the spot aired. It's interesting that two small press items like these have received national attention in the same month. It definitely bodes well for the industry.

And if any comic retailer can't bring 'em in a summer filled with Batman, Indiana Jones, The Punisher, and Star Trek, said comic retailer better start looking into buying a sandwich shop!

Rich Conley & Howard Harris
Comics & Records Unlimited
6856 Ingram
San Antonio, TX 78238

May, 1989

. . . It is 1966. Your family has just finished eating dinner. You get up from the table, turn on the TV . . . You can't believe your eyes! It's a dream come true for you! It is BATMAN - one of the '60's most popular TV shows . . .

WHAT'S HOT? BATMAN is HOT! He's 50, he's in a summer blockbuster movie, and let's change the word from Hot to SIZZLING! If the sales of Batman merchandise and comics that we're experiencing now is a sign of what to expect, WOW! Look for a lot of speculating, price hikes in general, and phenomenal selling prices (Hey, Collectors, beware of gouging! Not everything with a Batman logo is a rare and valuable collector's item). ANY and ALL Joker Covers (including Brave & Bold and World's Finest) sell immediately, even at twice guide! And, how about the Golden-age? Lower grades are selling so fast that we can't meet the demand. Looking for VF to NM copies of #1 to #60? "HaHaHaHaHaHaHa" to quote someone pretty (in) famous! Good luck on even trying to find nice copies of the middle numbers, those between #60 and #200.

What else is HOT besides BATMAN? Try to find Captain America 100! We sold the first one we've seen in six months (it was only a Fine-plus copy) for $25 on the same day we got it in. We also were witnesses to a F/VF copy being sold in April at the Dallas Fantasy Fair for $40. Ironman #1, Submariner #1, and even Captain Marvel #1 are selling faster than we can find them. Early Marvels [especially all the #1's] sell much faster than the average back issue. Demand has substantially improved for FF, Thor, and Hulk, although Spiderman really leads the way - even over X-Men. Tales of Suspense, up 'til now a real sleeper, has awakened! All of them from #39 - #99 in VF or better shape sell instantly. We've got a lot of lower grade copies; however, that only move moderately.

OK, here we go again. Let's talk DC . . . "HIGH GRADE, HIGH GRADE,

HIGH GRADE!" That's about the extent of the current DC Collector's Vocabulary. Of course, as we said earlier, Batman IS DC, but back issues of Flash and Green Lantern are moving real well. The original Justice League has slowed considerably, even though all three, Batman, Flash, and Green Lantern appear regularly in this title. There is little let-up in the demand for the obscure/

inexpensive titles from prior to 1969. I guess everyone is realizing that these books are over 20 years old, and NM copies are worth investing in. Besides, you don't have much to lose when the NM price is under $10.

GOLDEN-AGE books have always sold well for us, but recently they've started moving even faster. The higher priced books like Detective and All-Star that were lagging behind have picked up. Our inventory on these has fallen to less than 50 Detectives below #150 and 10 All-Stars. THERE ARE NO BATMAN ISSUES BELOW #100 left in the store!

We've seen a definite increase in the appetite for EC's and obscure titles. Western at $5.00 and below sell like hotcakes, and they're not too easy to find. Timely's are always in demand, but we seem to sell lower grade (hence, lower priced) copies much faster than the nice ones. We're also having a tough time keeping our pre-hero Atlas fans happy. These inexpensive "monster books" are classics in their own right and are getting harder and harder to find, especially in top grades.

Recent HOT stuff? Sure, probably the same that everyone else is going to write about . . . Punisher Ltd. #1, Longshot, Wolverine/

Punisher crossovers, Atlantis Attacks, and Wolverine and Punisher in their own books.

So, what else looks hot? Aliens Vol #2 has the makings of another winner, if the problems get straightened out. Batman Year 3 is highly discussed and looks hot. Hawk & Dove #1 sold out and we've got demand for more. Although we're selling out of the new Superman story line, we wouldn't recommend anyone spending their last dime buying a ton of them as speculation. Lex Luthor looks good, but we're a bit hesitant to give the BUY signal. Pre-release demand for the Wolverine Saga looks like it will be the biggest quantity new book ordered. And the new Marvel titles, Nth Man, She-Hulk, and Moon Knight are all selling pretty well - not barn burners, but moving well.

Let's discuss the losers, too. Action Comics Weekly and all the Gladstone ssues get the booby prize from South Texas. These both sell (or sold, in the case of Action Weekly) worse than any of the Color or B & W Independents currently on the market. Although we still carry them in order to be a "full-service" Comics Shop, we will gladly wholesale a box of these "gems" at a quarter a piece (plus actual cost of postage). Any takers?

We waited until the end of this market report to write about the really big change in the marketplace, and the way that we have been able to effectively move Golden and Silver Age products. The issue is the relationship of Grade to Price. The change in the annual Overstreet Price Book to list these older items with a Near Mint price is absolutely correct. Truly Mint condition books are so rare that they usually bring a 25% to 50% premium. Books in Fine condition only bring about 35% (some only 25%) of the Near Mint price tag. HOWEVER, books in Good bring about ONE-HALF of the Fine Price. Our selling price for comics in Good condition is higher than the guide would suggest, while we can't get guide prices for comics in Fine condition. To make sure y'all understand what we're saying, try this out. "Very Good is pretty much a dead grade." We sell Spiderman #1 in Good quickly at $250.00. It sells reasonably well in Fine at $500.00 - but we don't have anyone willing to pay more than $500.00 for a fine copy. VF brings in $1,000.00 to $1,200.000 and NM copies move at $1,500.00. As far as price ratios this means; Good: 15-20% of NM, Fine. 30-35% of NM, Very Fine: 70-80% of NM.

We'd like to hear more from other shops about their customer base, but from what we've seen at Cons we've attended over the past couple of months, this trend seems relatively universal. Our suggestion to the price guide is to bring up the price of Good, and decrease the price of Fine to be more in-line with the above percentages.

That's about it for this report. We're looking forward to a hot summer in the comics industry, and expect we'll learn more about what makes everything tick. Happy collecting and we hope to see many of you at some of the major summer shows. P. S. We failed to mention the speculative demand for obscure firsts and seconds - that is, Green Lantern #45 - only 5 issues past #40 is the second G. A. Green Lantern crossover. Customers are wanting the book badly and offering multiples of guide (why not, there's no difference in price between JLA #21 & #22). In the same vein Atom #29, etc.

Bob Nastasi
Amazing Comics
12 Gillette Avenue
Sayville, NY 11782

May, 1989

Congratulations must go to the Overstreet guides for changing the mint listing to near mint. As I have been saying for years, mint is the flavor of a candy, not a grade used in describing a collectable comic book. It has been my experience that most comics over 15 years old in Near Mint to Mint always sell over guide prices. Now Overstreet finally reflects this fact. And prices can be adjusted accordingly.

By the time this issue hits the stands, there will be less than a handful of comics still priced at $ .75. What this will initially mean for most general collectors is a cutting down or weeding outless desirable titles in order to keep up with the new releases. So look for some borderline or slow selling titles to be cancelled. Also look for overall slow downs on back issues as most of the dollar for these collectors will be tied up on keeping up; never mind back tracking issues. And further tying up collectors back issue money this summer will be all the Batman merchandise coming in.

There has been a slow down on back issues for the most part. There are basically two types of collectors looking for back issues in comic shops. The "newer collector", who's just starting out and the "older collector". For the most part, the new collector is just starting out. He buys new titles and newer series and will buy recent back issues to fill the gaps and complete sets. Since there is a constant turnover of collectors in this hobby, these are the back issues which are constantly in demand. The old collector really does not care for the most part about newer issues. Sure he buys some, but his main concern are older Silver Age or Golden Age books. He would rather take that $25 per week from new issues and buy one or two nice Silver Age books. Of course there are other types of collectors with as many reasons for buying comics. But these are the basic two right now. And these two types are dictating the back issue market. The collector who buys all the new issues while trying to complete his older runs is almost non-existent today. Thus older and newer back issues are supplementing most comic shops and new issue sales. Comics from 1970 to 1985 are for the most part dead items, or slow movers at best. The one exception to this time period is Batman. Any Batman title from any time period is impossible to keep in stock. Our once jam packed back issue bins of Batman and Detective comics is down next to nothing.

OLDER BACKS. Not much has changed in the Gold and Silver market. DC is still king of the golds, silver is shared with Marvel. A true Near Mint to Mint Amazing Spiderman #1 recently sold for $1,800 cash. The same buyer turned down $2,000.00 in cash four weeks later. X-Men #22, #23, & #24 Near Mints all sold for 20% over guide as did a Near Mint Spiderman #42. The gold/silver trend should continue into next year the same way.

NEWER BACKS. As I mentioned before, the pre-1985 books are slower movers. But post 1985 titles are very brisk. Marvel is the leader by far for newer backs, then DC, then . . . nobody! Independent back issue sales are slow at best. Nothing from any company sells with any regularity except TMNT's. A Near Mint signed first print of TMNT #1 brought $200.00. Issues #2 - #11 all brought over guide prices; otherwise, nothing consistent.

Back to Marvel. Mutant back issues still lead the way. X-men, Excalibur, and especially Wolverine are all hot back issues. So what else is new? Next comes Punisher and P. War Journal. Both sell great as backs. Also hot now are the McFarlane Spidermans. X-Factor, New Mutants and Marvel Comics presents are all good sellers. Most other continuity Marvels are moderate to good sellers. On the other side, 'Nam, G. I. Joe and Transformers have slowed to a crawl.

DC has Batman. Nothing else comes even close. Superman and the Justice League titles sell well as backs. Flash has slowed somewhat, as has Wonder Woman. Other recent DC continuity titles are slow to moderate sellers. The Cat Woman mini was a real surprise and has turned out to be a hot back issue.

On to the NEW ISSUES. The trend which has been developing over the last two years is starting to peak. That trend being Marvel and DC squeezing out the smaller guys. Marvel and DC own over 80% of the total market share for new comics, with Marvel at over 50%. Marvel has re established their number one position with an exclamation point! The shake ups to the majority of Marvel's middle of the road titles from last year have increased all sales on all titles across the board.

Independents are just about at their lowest levels. Titles are selling at or less the same numbers as they did one year ago. Very few newer readers are picking up the independents. Nothing new is selling great with any consistency except Aliens. Pre-orders for Aliens II, Predator, James Bond and Tapping The Vain are very good. And books like Faust and Black Kiss are good sellers, when available.

Things to look for this summer . . . Batman . . . Batman . . . Batman. Between buttons, pins, posters, toys, figures, t-shirts, mugs, etc., there will be plenty of product to keep fans busy for the rest of the summer.

PREDICTIONS. Current trends will continue this year with Marvel leaving no doubt in anyone's mind that they are number one in sales again. DC will ride on the Batman wave the rest of the year. And the independents will still be there. And so it goes on.

Steve Sibra
Rocket Comics
119 North 85th
Seattle, WA 98103

May, 1989

The back issue market in Seattle is quite strong right now, probably the strongest it's been in the past 4 years. Both recent titles and Silver Age books show powerful interest. Sales in Golden Age material in Seattle are low for one reason and one reason only - no Golden Age books show up for sale! In my opinion distribution was very poor in the Pacific Northwest prior to the mid-1950's. A few years ago 1940's comics would occasionally surface, but nowadays, virtually never. Anything that does turn up, particularly Golden DC, is rapidly absorbed by the collector market, even in lower grade.

Since the Golden Age books aren't around, those with money to spend are puffing it into the Silver Age market. Let's face it, it's no fun to collect something you just can't find, and at least the Silver Age comics are of reasonable availability.

The market for "key" issues has been fueled by the proliferation of the hard-core investor-type collector. Those who are strictly investors have always been with us but they have become much more in evidence in the last year. This type of "collector" has a limited knowledge of, or interest in, the comics themselves which they are seeking. In fact their lack of knowledge is often amusing; one such person asked a friend of mine recently, "Now, which issue of Brave & Bold is the first appearance of Nick Fury?". These investors want only high-grade copies of "key" books - first issues, first appearances, death issues, etc., and will buy in multiples if possible. For example, they will nab as many top condition copies of Amazing Spiderman #1, #14, #40 and #129 as they can find, with little or no interest in the other issues of the series. Other books falling into this category include Fantastic Four #1, #5 and #48, Captain America #100, Strange Tales #110 and #135, Hulk #102 and #181, Batman #171, Tales Of Suspense #57 and most of the DC 80-page giants of the 1960's. These books, because of this investor interest, will bring prices disproportionately higher than surrounding issues in the runs.

Even though these issues are already set apart and priced above the "standard" issues in the title, I feel the price-spread ratio on these books should be increased even more, to accu-

rately reflect current market trends.

Generally speaking, any high-grade $.12 cover price DC or Marvel superhero book is a reasonably quick sale at or slightly above current guide prices. Besides those already mentioned, other books that are especially hot in fine or better include Avengers #57, Dr. Strange #169, Daredevil #1 and #7, Tales To Astonish #44, Showcase #34, Brave And Bold # 28 - #30, # 34 and #43. Challengers Of The Unknown #2 is definitely the toughest book in the run to get, not only locally but according to a prominent midwestern Silver Age collector I've spoken with. Also, a couple of local Silver Age DC collectors, who shop nationwide for their books, have observed that Flash #107 is far and away the most difficult book in that run to obtain, in high grade especially.

The slowest Silver Age DC superhero book is Superboy with Lois Lane and Jimmy Olsen not far behind. Curiously, 60's X-Men is probably the slowest Silver Age marvel hero title for me. The previously less-respected titles like Strange Tales and Tales To Astonish sell strongly in high grade. While piles of nice X-Men #1, Perhaps the hard-core Marvel collectors went out and obtained their X-Men first, a few years ago, and are now catching up on the secondary titles.

Batman is of course the strongest seller of all right now, both Silver Age and Modern Age. I feel healthy hikes in price on all Batman books, including World's Finest, are in order. Joker appearances and covers are doubly hot.

Many Modern Age back issues are enjoying solid sales. Several of the Manga titles, especially Appleseed, Ak ira, and Outlanders, are selling great. Animal Man is a much sought-after book, and of course recent issues of the Marvel mutant titles, particularly Excalibur, are very fast movers. Moon Knight is enjoying a resurgence, probably because of similarities to Batman. Mr. X back issues between #2 and #10 are tough to find. Yummy Fur is also scarce and sells well when on hand. The Cult, Dark Knight and Killing Joke never sit around long.

It seems a rather precarious balance between strong new issue sales and a bullish back-issue market, but for the time being it seems to be going strong on both counts. I look forward to strong sales throughout the summer.

Robert Pilk and Robbie Lewis
Mountain Empire Comics and Collectibles
509 State Street
Bristol, VA 24201 4161

May, 1989

Perhaps it started with Frank Miller's Dark Knight or maybe the Englehart-Rogers version of the Caped Crusader. Then there was Year One, Year Two, The Killing Joke, A Death In The Family and everything in between. The point is that interest (and sales) have been building steadily in The Batman for the past few years. Now, the Batman movie is serving as a focal point for the summer long celebration of the Caped Crusader's 50th anniversary. What this means to the fans is there will be a lot of Batman material, comics and otherwise, for sale. What it means for us retailers is that we'll be selling all that Batman stuff. Batman sales aren't just rising; they're going through the roof (and it's not that falling plaster is a real pain!). Five years ago, Batman had mediocre sales in our stores. Detective was even worse. Now Batman outsells The X-Men and Detective isn't far behind. This is not to say that the Batman craze is the only thing going on in comics. It's just that Batman is so hot it overshadows other good sellers.

Another trend we're noticing is the extreme lateness of some comics. Havok and Wolverine and Mike Grell's James Bond 007 come to mind, and anything Eclipse publishes (with Scout the exception) is virtually guaranteed to be late. Yes, we know the old saying - you want it on time or good? - but is there any law against having it good AND on time? Publishers shouldn't solicit these books without having the entire series in-house.

As for back-issue sales, Batman rules! Oddly enough, Batman and Detective are the hot items, while there's little interest in Brave and Bold, World's Finest or Batman and the Outsiders. With back-issue prices rising, it's strange that DC doesn't keep trade paperbacks like Dark Knight or Year One in print. And reprinting Batman: Year Two (by Barr, Davis and McFarlane) in trade paperback form as a companion volume to Year One is one that many Bat-fans are asking for.

Early Silver Age Marvels are always in demand. Higher grades sell faster. Fantastic Four, Avengers and X-Men are strong, while there is renewed interest in Thor, Tales Of Suspense, Tales To Astonish and Strange Tales. Basically, if it is a superior grade Silver Age Marvel, there's a market for it.

The new She-Hulk and the West Coast Avengers have drawn a large number of John Byrne fans, although there is little interest in non-Byrne issues of those titles. Dead of dying back issues include G. I. Joe, Transformers, Alpha Flight and all of the New Universe titles.

Aside from Batman, other strong back issue sellers from DC are Justice League (International and Europe) and Animal Man. Grant Morrison has turned Animal Man into one of the best comics out today and surprised fans are now frantically searching for the early issues.

Some of the "renovated" DC heroes such as Wonder Woman, Flash and Green Arrow have slacked off in recent back-issue sales, although new issues of these titles are still strong. Odd-ball 1960's DC's like Sea Devils, Brother Power the Geek and Strange Adventures have shown some movement, but the mainstream titles like Superman, Action and Flash are sluggish.

Back issue sales of alternates like Eclipse, First and Comico (recently swallowed up by DC) are really slow. There is little interest in any title's back issues, even the good ones like Scout, Airboy, Zot, Fish Police and Tales Of The Beanworld.

The exceptions to this are several Dark Horse titles, notably Concrete and Aliens, and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

While prices have held Golden Age sales relatively low in our stores, the moderately priced, lower grade books have begun to move at about the time the new Overstreet price guide was due to ship. Since that time, led by the publicity surrounding the Batman movie, plus a concentrated effort to display and promote these hard-to-find Golden Age books, we have witnessed increased interest in the higher grade books.

In fact, it is now the very fine to near mint books that are in highest demand, a trend that appears to be nation-wide. Condition is rapidly becoming paramount. This is also true for our slim supply of Silver Age Marvel and DC's. Also, unrestored books are preferred.

Kirby Tardy
Collector's Corner
Grand Rapids, Michigan

May, 1989

New comics continue to be about 80% of sales. Every week seems to break a new record for product being shipped.

Late arrivals continue to hurt sales on on-going titles but especially hurts mini-series sales.

1989 is, of course, the year of the Bat. All product, T-shirts, hats and trade paperbacks are disappearing off the shelves. Even the Death In The Family TPB is selling for about double cover. Expect lots of non-comic book buyers to find and check out the local comic book stores. Every retailer should be ready to provide these shoppers with something to buy!

Recently "Dead" Marvel titles (Tales/Astonish, Suspense, Strange Tales, Etc.) are experiencing a dramatic up-swing in sales and prices. Many 1st appearances are in these titles (Hawkeye, Wasp, Etc.) and after years of dumping these books from their collections a new generation is actively seeking them again!

In April we put approximately 26,000 overstocked comics on sale at $.50 each. These comics included: Grim Jack #1 - #35, Jon Sable #6 - #33, DNAgents #1 - #18, Am. Flagg #4 - #30. All of the comics represented a great value if you were interested in reading comics and yet we sold less than 5% of these comics, with the vast majority still being Marvels! I really wish the buying public would take a chance and try something different once in a great while, you can't read X-Men forever! As retailers this is probably our fault, we're too willing to just sit back and ring-up the sales instead of expanding that customer base. We have an obligation to put comic books into everybody's hands because they're missing out on great entertainment and we're missing out on sales!

JON WARREN IS BUYING!!

We buy COMPLETE COLLECTIONS or single items. Our prices, integrity, and references are unmatched. For large purchases we will travel anywhere in the world!
Here is a partial wantlist for SILVER AGE COMICS (We also buy GOLDEN AGE):

TITLE	WE PAY
Adventure 210	Up to $500
Adventure 247	Up to $1300
Amazing Fantasy 15	Up to $3500
Amazing Spider-Man 1	Up to $4000
Amazing Spider-Man 2	Up to $500
Amazing Spider-Man 50	Up to $50
Amazing Spider-Man 129	Up to $160
Avengers 1	Up to $1000
Avengers 4	Up to $250
Batman 100	Up to $1250
Batman ...any pre-1965	Up to 100%
Brave And Bold 28	Up to $1550
Cerebus 1	Up to $200
Challengers 1	Up to $300

TITLE	WE PAY
Daredevil 1	Up to $600
Detective 225	Up to $1650
Fantastic Four 1	Up to $3500
Fantastic Four 2	Up to $600
Flash 105	Up to $950
Green Lantern 1	Up to $875
Hulk 1	Up to $850
Hulk 181	Up to $125
Justice League 1	Up to $900
Showcase 4	Up to $3400
Star Wars 1 (35¢)	Up to $150
Tales Of Suspense 39	Up to $700
Tales To Astonish 27	Up to $700
X-Men 1	Up to $1000

JOIN OUR LIST OF SATISFIED BIDDERS!!

Your bid sets the price in the most open, continous auction in the business. Investment grade Silver Age and Golden Age comics, vintage paperbacks, Big Little Books, original art, and other nice things - for sale to the highest bidder. (This offer also allows you to purchase our trademarked innovation - the VHS video auction catalog! Another revolutionary first from ACEX!)

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Big Little Books
Books (Hardcover)
Comic Books 1933-1959
Comic Books 1960- 1988
Disneyana
First Editions
Magazines
Movie Posters
Movie Collectibles
Mystery/ Detective
Paperback Books
Pulp Magazines
Science Fiction

- Please Fill Out This Area Completely And Circle Your Interests (s89-Update) -

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State:
Zip Code
Telephone
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Jon R. Warren, Pres. • Reference: Overstreet Price Guides (Editor & Advisor)

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Tropic Comics
313 S. State Rd. 7
Plantation, FL 33317
(305) 587- 8878

Tropic Comics South
742 NE 167th St
N. Miami Beach, FL 33162
(305) 940- 8700

Tropic Comics North
1018 21st St. (US 1)
Vero Beach, FL 32960
(407) 562- 8501

ADVISORS TO OVERSTREET'S UPDATE

BUYING

That's right, we're buying and paying some pretty amazing prices, a sample of which is listed below. So before you sell your books, write/call for our offer. And send us your wants. We specialize in High Grade Silver Age comics.

Title #	Pay up to	Title #	Pay up to
Amazing Adventures ('61) #1	$150	Iron Man & Sub-Mariner #1	$20
Adventure Comics #256	$100	Showcase #22	$1000
Amazing Spider-Man #21-30	$40	Showcase #30	$100
Batman #1-143,171	150%	Silver Surfer #1	$65
Captain America #100	$65	Star Trek (G.K.) #1	$50
Dark Shadows #1	$30	Star Wars #1 (35 cents)	$225
Detective Comics #168	$900	Strange Tales #110	$200
Detective Comics #225-298	125%	Strange Tales #115	$75
Fantastic Four #5	$500	Tales of Suspense #57,58	$50
Fantastic Four Annual #2	$50	Tales of Suspense #59,83	$15
Hawkman #1	$100	Tales to Astonish #59,60	$25

Sean Linkenback/Showcase Collectibles
5076F Beverly Glenn Village, Norcross, GA 30092
Ph: (404) 729-9407

A CASE OF BLIND FEAR
Eternity Comics Cover Price

ACE
Harrier Comics Cover Price

ACE COMICS PRESENTS
Ace Comics Cover Price

ACES
Acme Press (Eclipse Comics) Cover Price

ACTION COMICS (Weekly #091-642)
Dec. 1954-Present
DC Comics

1 Reprint; 1958, 50¢ cover	50	
201 Last pre-code issue	100 00	
202-220	60 00	
221-240	60 00	
241 243-251	45 00	
242 Origin & 1st app Brainiac	200 00	+ H
252- Origin & 1st app Supergirl	300 00	+ H
253- 3rd app Supergirl	50 00	H
254 1st meeting Of Bizarro & Superman		
	45 00	
255- 1st Bizarro Lois Lane	48 00	
256-261	24 00	
262-266, 268-270	21 00	
267- 3rd Legion app.	175 00	H
271-275, 277-282 282 Last 10 cent	18 00	
276- 5th Legion app	60 00	
283- Legion Of Super Villains app	25 00	
284- Mon-El app	25 00	
285 12th Legion app	25 00	
286-290	14 00	
291, 292, 294-299	7 00	
293- Origin Comet	16 00	+
300	10 00	
301-308 310-320	6 00	
309- Legion app	7 00	
321-333, 335 346	4 20	
334- Giant (G 20)	8 00	
341-345, 348-359	3 50	
347- Giant (G 33)	5 50	
360- Giant (G 45)	5 50	
361-372, 374 380	2 00	
373- Giant (G 57)	4 00	
381-424	1 50	
425- Adams art	2 00	
426 436 438 439	1 50	
437 443 -90 page giants	2 00	
440- 1st Grell art on Green Arrow	4 00	
441- Grell art on Green Arrow	2 50	
442, 444 450	1 50	
451-499	1 50	
509- Superman life story	1 20	
501-565	1 00	
566-582	1 00	
583- Alan Moore	6 00	+ H
584-Byrne begins	1 50	
585-597, 599	1 00	
598- 1st app. Checkmate	3 00	
600- 2 56 cover price	4 00	
601 642, Weekly issues (1 50, 48 pgs	1 50	
643- Monthly begins, Perez c/a, script	1 50	
644	80	+
Annual 1 (1987) Arthur Adams art, Bz	3 50	+
Annual 2 (July, 1989, 1 75- Perez)	1 75	
Title Value	5548 85	

ACTION FORCE
Marvel Comics Ltd (British) - Cover Price

ADOLESCENT RADIOACTIVE BLACK BELT HAMSTERS (Also see Clint, Lathia Gas)
1986-No. 9, Jan. 1988 (1 50, B&W)
Comic Castle Eclipse Comics

1	2 70	-
1- 2nd Print (1 50)	1 30	-
2 9	1 40	-
3 D 1 (7/88) 4	1 80	-
2 D 1 (limited edition)	4 50	
2 D 2 4 2 50 cover price	2 30	-
Massacre The Japanese Invasion (1	2 40	-
Title Value	36 20	

ADVANCED DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
Dec. 1988-Present (1 25 color)
DC Comics

1	2 50	+ H
2, 3	2 00	+ H
4-8	1 80	
Title Value	15 50	

ADVENTURE COMICS
No 247, Apr 1958 - No 503, Sept, 1983
National Periodical Publications/DC Comics

247 1st app Leg Of Super Heroes	1500 00	+
248-255	45 00	
256- Origin Green Arrow	135 00	+ H
257-259	45 00	
260- Origin Aquaman	85 00	+ H
261-266, 268, 270	34 00	
267-2nd Legion Of SuperHeroes	325 00	+
269- Intro Aqualad	50 00	H
271- Origin Luther	45 00	+ H
272-280	24 00	
281, 284, 287-289	21 00	
282- 5th Legion app	60 00	
283- Intro Phantom Zone	34 00	
285- 1st Bizarro World story + Adv	36 00	
286- 1st Bizarro Mxyzptlk	28 00	
290- 8th Leg on app , last 10 cent iss	52 00	
291, 292, 295-298	18 00	
293- 13th Legion app	38 00	
294-1st Bizarro M. Monroe Pres Kennedy		
	22 00	H
299-1st Gold Kryptonite	18 00	
300- Legion series begins	175 00	
301- Origin Bouncing Boy	55 00	
302-305	30 00	
306 316	24 00	
311-326	18 00	
321- Intro Time Trapper	14 00	
322-326, 328-330	12 00	
327- Intro Timber Wolf in Legion	12 00	
331 349	11 00	
341 Triplicate Girl becomes Duo Damsel		
	6 00	
342 345, 347, 350 351	7 00	
346, 348, 349	8 00	
352, 354-360	6 00	
353- Death of Ferro Lad in Leg on	10 00	
361-364, 366, 368-370	4 50	
365, 367, 371, 372	5 50	
373 374, 376-380	4 50	
375 Intro Quantum Queen	5 50	
381-389, 391-400	1 20	
390 (80 pg giant G-81)	4 00	
401, 402 404-410	1 20	
403 (68 pg Giant G 81)	4 00	
411-415, 418, 419	80	
416- (100 pg giant Supergirl DC-10)	1 20	
417- Monarow Vigilante, Prazeta Shi ning Knight reprints Adv 161	1 20	
420-424	80	
425- New look	1 50	
426-458	80	
459-466	90	
467-490	80	
491 Last comic-size iss	1 00	
492 499 492 100 pg digests begin	1 20	
500- All Legion reprints	1 60	
501-503	1 20	
Title Value	4862 80	

ADVENTURERS, THE
August 1986-Present (1 50, B&W)
Aircel Comics-Adventure Pub

1- Peter Hsu art	7 20	-
1- Cover variant limited edition	20 00	-
1- 2nd Print (12/86) 1st app Ell Warner		
	4 00	-
2 3	2 80	-
0 (#4, 12/86) Origin	2 00	-
4 10	1 60	-
Book II Regular Edition No 1	1 60	-
Book II Limited Edition No 1	1 60	-
Book II #2-8	1 60	-
Trade Paperback B&W, 7 95	6 40	-
Title Value	70 80	

ADVENTURES IN THE MYSTWOOD
Blackthorne Pub - Cover Price

ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN
New Comics - Cover Price

ADVENTURES OF B O C (Invasion Comics) [Cover Price]

Action Comics #250, © DC

Advanced Dungeons and Dragons #1, © DC

Adventure Comics #255 DC

Adventure Comics #277, © DC

THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

Adventures of Captain Jack #1, © Fantagraphics

Adventures of Superman #444, © DC

Airboy Meets the Prowler #1, © Eclipse

Alien Nation #1, © DC

ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN JACK, THE
June 1986-present ($2, B&W Adults)
Fantagraphics Books

1	4.00
2	3.00
3-12	2.00
Title Value:	27.00

ADVENTURES OF CHUK THE
(White Wolf Comics) [Cover Price]

ADVENTURES OF LUTHER ARKWRIGHT, THE
Oct 1987- No 9, 1989 (2.00, B&W)
Valkyrie Press

1	3.00
2-9	2.00
Title Value:	19.00

ADVENTURES OF RICK RAYGUN, THE
(Stop Dragon Comics) [Cover Price]

ADVENTURES OF SLATE SKATE, THE
(Hot Shot Comics)- [Cover Price]

ADVENTURES OF SPENCER SPOOK, THE
(Ace Comics)- [Cover Price]

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN
(Formerly Superman)
Jan 1987-Present
DC Comics

424	2.75 -
425-449, 449- Invasion	1.00 -
450-457	.70 -
Annual 1 (9/87), 2 (1988)	1.40 -
Title Value:	36.10

ADVENTURES OF THE OUTSIDERS, THE
(Formerly Batman And The Outsiders)
DC Comics - Cover Price

ADVENTURES OF THEOWN, THE
(Pyramid Comics)- [Cover Price]

ADVENTURES OF ZOTI IN DIMENSION 10 1/2
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

AFTER APOCALYPSE
(Paragraphix)- [Cover Price]

AFTERMATH
(Invasion Comics)- [Cover Price]

AGAINST BLACKSWARD: 3-D
(Sirius Comics)- [Cover Price]

AGENT UNKNOWN
(Renegade Press)- [Cover Price]

AIRBOY
July, 1986-Present (16 pages bi-weekly)
Eclipse Comics (no 9 on regular size)

1	4.00 -
2-4, 6-8	2.00 -
5- Dave Stevens cover	3.00
9-20	1.60 -
21-30	1.40 -
31-49	1.60 -
50, 3.95 cover, 52 pgs. Kubert c	3.95
Arboy Meets The Prowler (1987)	1.95
Arboy - Mr. Monster Special (1987)	1.95
Arboy Versus The Air Maidens (1988)	1.95
Title Value	90.80

AIR FIGHTERS CLASSICS
Nov 1987-Present (3.95, B&W)
Eclipse Comics

1-5	3.95
Title Value	19.75

AIRFIGHTERS MEET SGT STRIKE SPECIAL
Jan 1988 (1.95, color one-shot)
Eclipse Comics

1	1.95
Title Value	1.95

AIRMAIDENS SPECIAL
August, 1987-Present (1.75, color)
Eclipse Comics

1	2.00
Title Value	2.00

AIR RAIDERS
Nov 1987-No 5, Mar 1988 (1.00, color)
Star Comics (Marvel)

1-5	1.00
Title Value	5.00

AKIRA
Sept, 1988-Present (3.50 color deluxe)
Epic Comics

1	5.00 +
2-5	3.75
Title Value	20.00

ALBEDO
Apr 1983- Present (B&W)
Thoughts And Images

0- Yellow cover, 50 copies	171.00 -
0- White cover, 450 copies	153.00 -
0 Blue 1st printing, 500 copies	81.00 -
0 Blue 2nd printing, 1000 copies	63.00 -
0 3rd print	4.50 -
0 4th print	1.60 -
1 Dark red	81.00 -
1 Bright red	72.00 -
2	81.00 -
3	9.00 -
4	22.50 -
5	7.20 -
6	9.00 -
7-15	2.30 -
Title Value	776.70

ALF
Mar 1988-Present (1.00, color)
Marvel Comics

1	7.00 H
2	4.00 H
3-5	2.00
6-10	1.20
11-20	1.00
Annual 1 (1988, 1.75 cover) Evolutionary War	
	3.00
Holiday Special (1.75 64 pgs.)	1.75
Spring Special 1 (1989, 1.75)	1.75
Title Value	19.50

ALIEN DUCKLINGS
Blackthorne Publishing - Cover Price

ALIEN ENCOUNTERS
June 1988- No 14, Aug., 1987
Eclipse Comics

1-14	2.00
Title Value	28.00

ALIEN FIRE
1987-No 3, 1987 (2.00, B&W)
Kitchen Sink Press

1-3	2.50
Title Value	7.50

ALIEN LEGION
Apr 1984- No 20, Sept 1987
Epic Comics (Marvel)

1	3.50
2-5	2.00
6-10	1.70
11-20	1.50
Title Value	35.00

ALIEN LEGION
Aug 1987-Present (1.25, color)
Epic Comics

V2 #1	2.00
2-12	1.50
Title Value	18.50

ALIEN NATION
Dec 1988 (2.50, color one-shot)
DC Comics

1- Movie sequel	2.50
Title Value	2.50

ALIENS
1988-Present (1.95 B&W mini-series)
Dark Horse Comics

1- New story based on movie	11.00 + H

1- Second printing 2.50 + H
2 5.00 + H
2- Second printing 2.00 + H
3- Third printing 2.00 + H
3 3.00 + H
Title Value: 25.50

ALIEN WORLDS
Dec 1952 No 9 Jun 1955
Pacific Comics/Eclipse Comics
1 3.50
2-7 3.00
8 1st Eclipse issue 1.70
9 $1.50 cover price, last issue 2.00
3-D No 1- Art Adams 5.00 H
Title Value: 30.20

ALL AMERICAN MEN OF WAR
No 2 Dec-Jan 1952 No 117, Sept-Oct., 1966
National Periodical Publ
127 (1952) 148.50 +
128 (1952) 93.50 +
5-8 (1952) 77.00 +
9-10 49.50 +
11-20 37.40 +
21-28 27.50 +
29, 30, 32-Wood art 30.80 +
31, 33-50 13.20 +
51-57, 57-1st Gunner & Sarge by And 9.90 +
58-80 5.00 +
81-100 2.80 +
101-117 1.70 +
Title Value: 2052.00

ALL STAR INDEX, THE
Independent Comics Group (Eclipse) - Cover Price

ALL-STAR SQUADRON
Sept 1981 - No 67, Mar 1987
DC Comics
1 1.50
2 1.00
3-24 .80
25- 1st Infinity, Inc. 3.50 -
26- Infinity, Inc origin 3.00 -
26-46, 48, 49 .80
47- Todd McFarlane art 3.00 + H
50- Crisis cover 1.50
51-53- Crisis x-over 1.00
54-67 .80
Annual 1-3 1.00
Title Value 86.70

ALPHA FLIGHT
Aug 1983 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1 4.50 -
2 3.00 -
3-5 2.70 -
6-11 2.25 -
12- Double size 2.50 -
13- Wolverine app. 5.00 + H
14-16 1.50
17- X-Men x-over, Wolverine app 5.00 + H
18-29 last Byrne issues 1.50
30-32, 35-39 1.30
33, 34- Wolverine app 3.00 + H
40-49, 51 1.30
50- Double size 1.40
52- 53 Wolverine app. 2.50 +
54-74 1.30
75- Double size, 1.95 cover 1.95
Annual 1 1.80
Annual 2 (12/87), 1.25 cover) 1.30
Title Value 133.55

ALPHA WAVE (Dark Horse Comics) [Cover Price]

ALTER EGO
May 1986- No 4 Nov 1986 (mini-series)
First Comics
1 1.80
2-4 1.40
Title Value 6.00

ALTERNATE EXISTENCE
(Alternate Comics) [Cover Price]

ALTERNATE HEROES
(Prelude Graphics) [Cover Price]

AMAZING ADULT FANTASY
(Amazing Adve. No. 1-6 Amazing Fantasy No 15)
No 7, Dec, 1961 - No 14 July, 1962
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
7- Ditko art in all 92.00 + H
8 last 10 cent issue 77.00 + H
9-14 66.00 + H
Title Value 565.00

AMAZING ADVENTURES
(Amazing Adult Fantasy No. 7 on)
June, 1961 - No 8, Nov, 1961
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
1- Origin Dr. Droom (1st Marvel, Super Hero)
Ditko & Kirby art in all 165.00 + H
2 82.00 + H
3-8 81.00 + H
Title Value 491.00

AMAZING ADVENTURES
Aug, 1970 - No 39, Nov, 1976
Marvel Comics Group
1- Inhumans by Kirby & Black Widow begin
3.00 +
2-4 2.60 +
5, 8- Adams art 3.50 +
9, 10- 10 Last Inhumans 1.50 +
11- New Beast begins, ends no. 17, X-Men cameo
4.00 +
12-17 2.00 +
18- 1st app. Killraven, Adams art 3.00 +
19-39 1.00 +
Title Value 66.00

AMAZING ADVENTURES
December, 1979 - No. 14, January 1981
Marvel Comics Group
V2 #1- Reprints X-Men 1, 38 2.00
2-14 Early X-Men reprints 1.50
Title Value 21.50

AMAZING COMICS PREMIERES
Amazing Comics - Cover Price

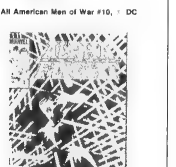
AMAZING CYNICALMAN, THE
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

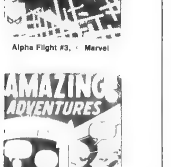
AMAZING FANTASY
(Adult Fantasy No 7-14)
No. 15, Sept 1962 (on 1st pg.)
Marvel Comics Group (AMI)
15- Origin & 1st app Spider-Man 2250.00 + H
Title Value 2250.00

AMAZING HIGH ADVENTURE
Marvel Comics Group - Cover Price

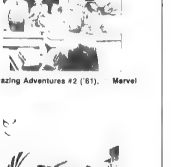
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THE
March, 1963 - Present
Marvel Comics Group
1- Origin retold Ditko 2000.00 + H
1 (Reprint) 67.00 + H
1 (with record) 58.00 + H
2- Intro. The Vulture 515.00 + H
3- Intro & 1st app Doc Octopus 325.00 + H
4- Org & 1st app The Sandman 265.00 + H
5, 6 200.00 + H
7-10 152.00 + H
11-13, 15 100.00 + H
14- Intro the Green Goblin 150.00 + H
16-19 85.00 + H
20- Intro & origin The Scorpion 75.00 + H
21-30 26- 1st app Crime Master 28 origin & 1st app Molten Man 41.00 + H
31-40 31- Intro Harry Osborn Cover Stacy & Prof Warren, 38- Last Ditko issue 39, 40- Green Goblin revealed
28.00 + H
41, 43-49 17.00 + H
42- 1st app Mary Jane Watson 20.00 + H
50- Intro Kingpin 50.00 + H
51-60 56- Intro Capt George Stacy 10.00 + H
61-80 7.20 + H
81, 86, 91, 93, 95, 99 6.60 + H
90- Death of Capt. Stacy 8.80 + H
94- Origin retold 9.90 + H
96-98 Drug books not approved by CCA
16.00 + H
100- Anniversary issue 25.00 + H

All American Men of War #10, © DC


Alpha Flight #3, © Marvel



Amazing Adventures #2 ('61). Marvel


The Amazing Spider-Man #2, © Marvel

THE OVERSTREET UPDATE

The Amazing Spider-Man #161, © Marvel

The Amazing Spider-Man #298, © Marvel

American Flagg! #2 ('83), © First

Animal Man #2, © DC

101- Intro Morbius 10 00 + H
102- Origin Morbius (52 pgs) 10 00 + H
103-112, 115-118 5 00 + H
113, 114, 119, 120 5 50 + H
121- Death of Gwen Stacy 27 00 + H
122- Death of Green Goblin 27 00 + H
123-128 4 40 - H
129- 1st app The Punisher (2/74) 125 00 - H
130-133, 138-149 4 00 + H
134- Punisher cameo app (July, 1974 10 00 + H
135- Punisher app. (Aug, 1974, Zad is 35 00 + H
141-160 3 00 + H
161- Punisher (cameo) 11 00 + H
162- Punisher app , Nightcrawler 16 00 + H
165-170 2 20 + H
171-173, 176-181 181- Ong n retold, gives life History of Spiderman 2 20 + M
174, 175- Punisher app 8 00 + H
182-188 2 20 + H
189, 190- Byrne art (p) 2 80 + H
191-193, 195 196, 204, 205, 207-219 2 20 + M
194- 1st Black Cat 2 80 + H
200- Giant origin issue 4 00 + H
201, 202- Punisher app 6 00 + H
203- 2nd Dazzler app 2 20 + H
206- Byrne art 1 70 + H
220-237 1 70 + H
238- 1st app. Hobgoblin 8 00 + H
239 3 30 + H
240-250 1 70 + H
251 4 00 + H
252- New black costume for Spiderman H
5 50 +
253 3 30 + H
254 2 20 + H
255 260 259- Spider-Man back to old costume h
1 70 + H
261-274, 276-283 1 30 + H
275- Reprints origin, 1 25 cover doou H
284- Punisher cameo app. 2 20 + H
285- Punisher app 8 00 + H
286-288, 290-292 1 30 + H
289- Double size, origin Hob-Goblin 4 50 + H
293 294- Sh pert, Kravan 3 30 + H
295-297 2 20 + H
298- Todd McFarlane art begins 8 00 + H
299- McFarlane art 5 00 + H
300- Double size, last black costume 5 00 + H
301-305 2 50 + H
306-315 2 00 + H
316-322 1 25 + H
Annual 1 70 00 + H
Annual 2 22 00 + H
Special 3, 4 10 00 + H
Special 5-8 5 50 + H
King Size 9 3 30 + H
Annual 10, 11, 12 3 30 + H
Annual 13- John Byrne art 4 40 + H
Annual 14- Miller cover and art 5 50 + H
Annual 15 Punisher app Miller c/s 7 70 + H
Annual 16-20 2 20 + H
Annual 21- Wedding issue direct sale 00 -
4 00 + H
Annual 21- Wedding issue, newstand version
3 30 + H
Annual 22 (1988)- Evolutionary War 3 30 + H
Annual 23 - (1989) Atlantis Attacks 2 00 + H
Giant Size 1 4 40 + H
Giant Size 2, 3, 5, 6 2 20 + H
Giant Size 4 - Third Punisher app 15 00 + H
Title Value 7349 35

AMAZON, THE
Comico - Cover Price

AMBUSH BUG
June 1985 - No 4, Sept, 1985 (4 issue mini-series)
DC Comics
1 1 00
2-4 .60
Stocking Stuffer (2/86) 1 00
Title Value: 4 70

AMERICAN, THE
July 1987-Present (B&W, 1 75)
Dark Horse Comics
1 6 00 H
2 4 00 H
3-5 2 50
6-9 1 75

American Collection (B&W, 5 95) 5 95
Title Value 30 45

AMERICAN FLAGG!
Oct, 1983 - No 50, Mar 1988
First Comics
1 3 50 -
2-12 1 70 -
13-50 1 00 -
Special 1 1 50 -
Title Value: 60 30

AMERICAN FLAGG! (Howard Chaykin's)
May 1988 Present (1 75 color)
First Comics
V2#1-9 1 75 -
10- Elvis Presley photo cover 2 50
Title Value: 18 25

AMERICA VERSUS THE JUSTICE SOCIETY
Jan 1985 - No 4, Apr, 1985 (mini series)
DC Comics
1 1 50 -
2-4 1 00 -
Title Value 4 50

AMERICOMICS
May, 1983-No 6, Mar 1984 (Color)
Americomics
1-6 printed on Baxter paper 2 50
Special 1 (8/83 $2 00) 2 50
Title Value 17 50

AMETHYST
Jan, 1985 - No 16, Aug 1986
DC Comics
1-16 1 00
Special 1 1 00
Title Value: 17 00

AMETHYST
Nov, 1987-No 4 Feb 1988 (1 25, mini series, color)
DC Comics
1-4 1 25 -
Title Value: 5 00

AMETHYST, PRINCESS OF GEM WORLD
May, 1983 - No 12, May, 1984 (12 issue maxi-series)
DC Comics
1 - 50 cent regular cover price 1 50
1 - 35 cent cover price tested in Austin and Kansas City only, scarce 10 00 +
1 - 35 cent cover price tested in Austin and Kansas City only, scarce 10 00 +
2-12 1 00
Annual 1 1 50
Title Value 33 50

AMUSING STORIES
(Renegade Press)- [Cover Price]

ANGEL AND THE APE (Becomes "Meet Angel")
Nov Dec 1968-No 6 Sept Oct 1969
National Periodical Publications
1 4 50 +
2-6 3 50 +
Title Value 32 00

ANGEL LOVE
DC Comics - Cover Price

ANIMAL MAN
Sept 1988-Present (1 25, color)
DC Comics
1 4 00 + H
2 2 50 + H
3, 4 2 00 + H
5-10 & Invasion tie-in 1 50 + H
Title Value 43 50

ANIMAXX
Star Comics (Marvel) Cover Pr ce

ANIVERSE, THE
WeeBee Comics Cover Price

ANTBOY [Cover Price]

ANTHRO (See Showcase)
July-Aug, 1968 - No 6, July-Aug, 1969

National Periodical Publications
1 7.50 +
2-6 4.00
Title Value: 27.50

ANYTHING GOES
Oct. 1986-No. 6 1987 (Mini series)
Fantagraphics
1- Fleming Carrot app 3.50
2-4, 6 2.00
5- TMNT app 2.50 +
Title Value: 15.50

APPLESEED
Eclipse International Cover Price

AQUAMAN
Jan-Feb, 1962 - No. 63, Aug-Sept, 1978
National Periodical Publications/DC Comics
1 Intro Quisp 90.00 + H
2 38.00 + H
3-5 27.00 + H
6-10 20.00 + H
11-20 11.00 +
21-31, 32, 34-40 6.50 +
33- Intro Aqua Girl 7.75 +
41-47, 49 4.50 +
48- Origin reprinted 3.00 +
50-52 Adams Deadman 10.00 +
53-56 3.00 +
57-63 1.75 +
Title Value 432.20

AQUAMAN
Feb, 1986 No. 4 May 1986 (Mini series)
DC Comics
1 5.00
2-4 3.00
Special 1 (1988, 1.50 cover) 2.00
Title Value 16.00

AQUAMAN
June, 1989-No. 5 (1.00, color mini-series)
DC Comics
1-3 1.00 +
Special 1 (Legend of 2.00) 2.00
Title Value 5.00

ARAK/SON OF THUNDER
Sept, 1981 - No. 50, Nov, 1985
DC Comics
1-50 1.00
Annual 1 1.00
Title Value 51.00

ARAMIS
Comics Interview - Cover Price

AREA 88
May 26, 1987 Present (1.50, B&W)
Eclipse Comics/Viz Comics
1 3.60 -
1- 2nd print 1.70 -
2 1.30 -
2-5 2.10 -
6-10 1.70 -
11-38 1.30 -
37-40 1.50 -
Title Value 72.54

ARGONAUTS, THE
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

ARION, LORD OF ATLANTIS
Nov 1982 - No. 35, Oct 1985
DC Comics
1-38 1.00
Special 1 1.00
Title Value: 37.00

ARISTOCRATIC X-TRATERRESTRIAL TIME-TRAVELING THIEVES
August, 1988 -No. 6 (1.75 cover, B&W)
Fictioneer Books, Ltd
1- One shot 2.50 -
1- 2nd print (12/88) 1.50 -
1 Begin new series (2/89) 1.50 -
2-6 1.50 -
Title Value 13.00

ARMAGEDDON FACTOR, THE
1987 Present (1.95 color)
AC Comics
1, 2 2.00
Title Value 4.00

ARMOR (Also see Revengers Featuring...)
Sept 1985- Present (cover, 2.00)
Continuity Comics
1- Neal Adams art 2.50 -
2-5 2.00
Title Value 10.50

ARMY SURPLUS KOMIKZ FEATURING CUTEY BUNNY (CUTEY BUNNY No. 5)
1982 No 4 (1.50, B&W)
Army Surplus Komikz/Eclipse Comics
1-Featuring Cutey Bunny 12.00 -
2-4 7.00 -
Title Value 33.00

ASSASSINS, INC.
(Silverline Comics) [Cover Price]

ASTONISHING TALES
Aug, 1970 - No. 36 July, 1976
Marvel Comics Group
1- Ka-Zar by Kirby, Dr. Doom beg n 2.50 +
2 1.50 +
3-6 Smith art 3.00 +
7-9 &Last Kirby issue 1.50 +
10 Smith/Sal Buscema art 2.50 +
11- Origin Ka-Zar 1.50 +
12- Man Thing by Adams 2.50 +
13-24 1.00 +
25 Deathlok The Demolisher begins 3.00 +
26-36 1.00 +
Title Value: 53.00

ASTRO BOY
Aug. 1965 (One-shot, TV)
Gold Key
1 (10151-508)- Scarce 65.00 H
Title Value: 65.00

ASTRO BOY, THE ORIGINAL
Sept 1987-No 19 1989 (1.50, color, 3 on 1.75)
Now Comics
1 3.50 -
2 2.40 -
3 2.25 -
4-10 1.80 -
11-19 1.50 -
Title Value. 37.60

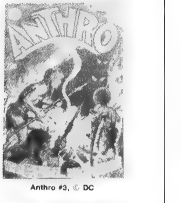
ATARI FORCE
Jan, 1984 - No. 20 May, 1985
DC Comics
1-20 1.00
Special 1 1.00
Title Value 21.00

ATOM, THE (See Power Of , Sword Of,) (& the Hawkman No. 39 on)
June-July, 1962 No. 38, Aug Sept 1965
National Periodical Publications
1 160.00 + H
2 80.00 H
3 1st Time Pool story 1st app Chronos (origin) 40.00 H
4, 5 30.00 H
6-10 21.00 H
11-15 15.00 H
16-20 9.00 H
21-30 6.00 H
31-38 4.00 H
Title Value: 627.00

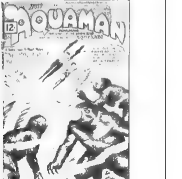
ATOM AND THE HAWKMAN
No 39 Oct-Nov 1968 No 45 Oct Nov 1969
National Periodical Publications
39-45 5.00 +
Title Value. 35.00

ATOMIC MAN
Blackthorne Pub Cover Price

AVALON
Harrier Pub Cover Price

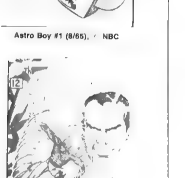


Anthro #3, © DC



Aquaman #1 ('62), © DC

Astro Boy #1 (8/65), © NBC



The Atom #1, © DC

Watchmen #8, © DC

Web of Spider-Man #32 © Marvel

What If, ? #31, © Marvel

Whisper #1 (12/83), © First

WATCHCATS
Harmet Comics Cover Price

WATCHMEN
Sept. 1986- No. 12, Oct. 1987 (12 issue maxi-series)
DC Comics

1	7.00	H
2, 3	5.00	H
4-10	3.75	H
11, 12	3.00 -	H
Trade Paperback (1987, 14.95)	16.00	H
Hardcover (BF Book Club, retail $15)	25.00	H
Hardcover (Limited, Graphitti Designs retail $50)	75.00	H
DC Portfolio (24 plate, retail $20)	25.00	H
Signed/Limited French Portfolio (2000 copies, retail $50)	200.00 +	H
Limited/Numbered Button set ($4.95 r	15.00	H
Title Value.	396.25	

WAXWORK
Blackthorne Publishing Cover Price

WEASEL PATROL, THE
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

WEB OF SPIDERMAN
Apr., 1985 - Present
Marvel Comics Group

1	7.00	H
2, 3	4.00	H
4-8	3.00	H
9-13	2.80 +	H
14-28, 30	2.20 +	H
29- Wolverine app	4.00 +	H
31- Six part Kraven storyline	4.40 +	H
32- Kraven storyline continues	4.00 +	H
33, 34	1.40 +	H
35-55	1.10 +	H
Annual 1	2.40 +	H
Annual 2- Arthur Adams art	4.40 +	H
Annual 3	2.00 +	H
Annual 4- Evolutionary War (1988)	2.80 +	H
Annual 5- (Atlantis Attacks, 2.00)	2.00	H
Title Value:	4133.10	

WEIRD, THE
Apr 1988-No. 4, July 1988 (1.50, color, mini-series)
DC Comics

1- Wrightson cover & art in all	2.50
2-4	2.00
Title Value.	8.50

WEIRD ROMANCE (Eclipse Comics)- Cover Price

WEREWOLF
Blackthorne Publishing- Cover Price

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT
Sept, 1972 - No. 43, Mar, 1977
Marvel Comics Group

1	3.00 +	
2-31, 34 36, 38-43	1.00	
32- Origin, 1st app. Moon Knight	9.00	
33- Moon Knight	5.00	
37- Moon Knight	2.50	
Giant Size 2-5	1.00	
Title Value:	62.50	

WEST COAST AVENGERS
Sept, 1984 - No. 4 Dec, 1984 (4-issue mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group

1	7.00	H
2-4	4.50	H
Title Value:	20.50	

WEST COAST AVENGERS
Oct. 1985 - Present (regular series)
Marvel Comics Group

V2 #1	5.00	H
2, 3	3.50	H
4-6	2.75	H
7-10	2.25	H
11-20	2.00	H
21-30	1.25	H
31-41	1.00	H
42- John Byrne begins	2.00 +	H
43-49	1.00	H
Annual 1	2.00	H
Annual 2 (8/87, 1.25)	1.75	H
Annual 3 (1988) Evolutionary War	2.50 +	H
Title Value:	69.75	

WHAT IF...?
Feb, 1977 - No 47, Oct 1985
Marvel Comics Group

1	7.00
2	4.50
3-5	3.50
6-10	2.50
11, 12	2.50
13- Conan	4.00
14-26, 29	2.00 +
27- X-Men app., Miller-c	6.00 +
28- Daredevil by Miller	6.00 -
30- Wolverine	2.00
31- X-Men app., Wolverine app.	6.00 + H
32-47	1.50
Special (June, 1988, 1.50, color)	1.50
Title Value	118.40

WHAT IF...?
July, 1989-Present (1.25, color)
Marvel Comics

V2 #1	1.50 +
2-4	1.25
Title Value:	5.25

WHAT THE-?!
Aug 1988-Present (1.25/1.50, color, semi annual)
Marvel Comics

1	2.60 +
2, 4	1.50
3- Todd McFarlane art	3.00 +
5- Punisher/Wolverine parody	1.50
Title Value	6.50

WHISPER
Dec 1983 - No 2, 1984
Capital Comics

1	9.00 +
2	4.00 +
Title Value	17.00

WHISPER
June, 1986-Present
First Comics

V2 Nos. 1	3.00 +
2	2.00 +
3-9	1.30
10-29	1.60
Special 1- (Nov. 1985, 2.50)	2.50
Title Value:	52.80

WHODUNNIT?
(Eclipse Comics)- [Cover Price]

WHO'S WHO
Mar 1985 - No. 26, April 1987 (26 issue maxi-series)
DC Comics

1	2.00
2-25	1.20
Title Value:	32.00

WHO'S WHO IN STAR TREK
Mar., 1987-No 2, Apr 1987 (1.50, color)
DC Comics

1, 2	3.00
Title Value.	10.00

WHO'S WHO IN THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROE
Apr 1987-No. 7, Nov 1988 (1.25, color index)
DC Comics

1-7	1.30
Title Value:	9.10

WHO'S WHO UPDATE '87
Aug., 1987-No 5 Dec 1987 (1.25, color)
DC Comics

1-5	1.50
Title Value	7.50

WHO'S WHO UPDATE '88
Aug 1988-No 4, Nov 1988 (1.25, Index)
DC Comics

1-4	1.25
Title Value.	5.00

WILD, THE
Eastern Comics - Cover Price

WILD DOG
Sept. 1987- No. 4 Dec. 1987 (4 part mini series)
DC Comics

1-4	.80
Title Value:	3.20

WILD KNIGHT'S
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

WILDMAN
(Megafon Comics)- [Cover Price]

WILLOW
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

WINTERWORLD
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

WITCH
Eternity Comics - Cover Price

WIZARD OF FOURTH STREET
(Dark Horse Comics)- [Cover Price]

WIZARD OF TIME, THE
(David House)- [Cover Price]

WIZARDS OF THE LAST RESORT
(Blackthorne)- [Cover Price]

WIZARD WORKS
(Fantasy Genera)- [Cover Price]

WOLFPACK
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

WOLPH (Blackthorne)- [Cover Price]

WOLVERINE (Also see Incredible Hulk)
Sept, 1982 - No. 4 Dec, 1982 (min series)
Marvel Comics Group

1- Miller cover & art in all	13.00 + H
2, 3	9.50 + H
4	10.50 + H
Title Value:	42.50

WOLVERINE (Also see Marvel Comics Presents)
Nov 1988-Present (1.50 color)
Marvel Comics

1	5.00 + H
2, 3	3.00 + H
4-8	2.00 + H
9-14	1.50 H
Title Value:	33.00

WONDER MAN
Marvel Comics - Cover Price

WONDER WOMAN
No. 73, January, 1955 - No. 329, Jan, 1986
National Periodical Publications/DC Comics

73-90	42.00
91-94, 96-99	28.00
95- Atom Bomb cover	32.00
100	56.00
101-104, 106-110	22.00
105- Secret origin, scarce	45.00
111-120	13.00
121-126 126-Last 10 cent issue	7.50
127-130	7.00
131-150	5.00
151-158, 160-170	4.00
159	5.00
171-178	3.00
179-195	2.50
196-198	3.00
199, 200	5.00
201-210	1.20
211-286	1.00
287- New Teen Titans app.	1.50
288-328	1.00
329- Last issue	1.50
Title Value:	1881.50

WONDER WOMAN
Feb. 1987-Present

DC Comics

1- Perez cover & art begins, ends #24	3.00
2 5	1.50
6-10	1.30
11-20	1.10
21-33	1.00
Annual 1 (1 50, 1988)- Art Adams art	1.50
Title Value	41.00

WORDSMITH
Renegade Press - Cover Price

WORLD OF KRYPTON
Dec. 1987 No. 4, Mar 1988 (mini-series, 75, color)
DC Comics

1-4, Byrne story	1.00
Title Value.	4.00

WORLD OF METROPOLIS, THE
Aug. 1988-No. 4 Nov 1988 (1.00, color, mini-series)
DC Comics

1-4 Byrne scripts	1.00
Title Value.	4.00

WORLD OF SMALLVILLE
Apr. 1988-No. 4, July 1988 (75, color)
DC Comics

1-4	1.20
Title Value:	4.80

WORLD OF WOOD
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

WORLD OF YOUNG MASTER
New Comics Group - Cover Price

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS
No. 75, Jan, 1955 - No. 323, Jan, 1986
National Periodical Pubi./DC Comics

75-80 1st code approved	70.00
81-90	45.00
91-93, 95-99	30.00
94- Origin Superman/Batman retold	100.00 + H
100	75.00 +
101-121 121-Last 10 cent issue	20.00
122-142	10.00
143-150	7.00
151-160	5.00
161- Giant G-28	4.00
162-168	3.00
170 - Giant G-40	4.00
171-174	3.00
175, 176- Adams art	4.00
177, 178, 180-187	1.50
179 (G-52), 188 (G-64) Giants	2.00
189-196	1.50
197- Giant G-76	2.00
198-204	1.50
205- Shining Knight by Frazetta r	1.50
206- Giant G-88	1.50
207-248	1.00
249- The Creeper by Ditko begins	1.50
250-299, 301-323	1.00
300-(48 pgs. $1.25) New Teen Titans	1.50
Title Value	2237.50

WRATH OF THE SPECTRE, THE
May 1988-No. 4, Aug 1988 (2.50, color mini-series)
DC Comics

1-4	2.50
Title Value	10.00

WYOMING TERRITORY
Allis Comics - Cover Price

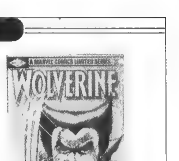
XANADU
Thoughts & Images - Cover Price

XENO-MEN (Blackthorne)- [Cover Price]

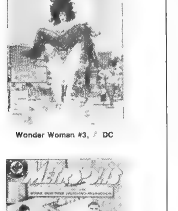
XENON
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

XENOZOIC TALES
Feb 1987-No. 7 1988 (2.00 B&W)
Kitchen Sink

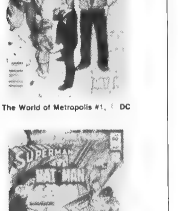
1	3.00 +
2	2.50 +
3-7	2.00
Title Value	15.50



Wolverine #1 (9/82), © Marvel



Wonder Woman #3, © DC



The World of Metropolis #1, © DC

World's Finest #291, © DC

X-Factor #1, © Marvel

X-Men #4, © Marvel

X-Men #94, © Marvel

X-Men #171, © Marvel

X-FACTOR
Feb, 1986 - Present
Marvel Comics Group

1	8.00	H
2, 3	5.00	H
4, 5	4.50	H
6-10	3.00	H
11-20	2.50	
21-23	1.80	H
24-26 Fall Of The Mutants	2.50	H
27-30	1.40	H
31-45, 41, 42- Art Adams art (p)	1.00	H
Annual 1 (1986), 2 (1987)	2.50	
Annual 3 (1988) Evolutionary War	3.00	H
Annual 4 (1989), Atlantis Attacks)	2.00	H
Title Value	105.50	

X-MEN, THE (Uncanny ... #142 - on)
Sept. 1963 - Present
Marvel Comics Group

1- Origin and 1st app. The X-Men	900.00 +	H
2- 1st app. The Vanisher	345.00 +	H
3- 1st app. The Blob	168.00 +	H
4- 1st app. Quicksilver, Scarlet Witch	136.50 +	H
5	110.00 +	H
6-10	84.00 +	H
11-15-12- Origin Prof X	58.00 +	H
16-20	37.00 +	H
21-27, 29, 30	30.00 +	H
28- 1st app. The Banshee	34.00 +	H
31-37	21.00 +	H
38- Origin The X-Men feature begins	23.00 +	H
39, 40 39-new costumes	19.00 +	H
41-49	15.00 +	H
50, 51 Steranko c/a	21.00 +	H
52	13.00 +	H
53- 1st Barry Smith comic book work	22.00 +	H
54, 55	18.00 +	H
56-63, 65 Adams art	23.00 +	H
64- 1st Sunfire	17.00 +	H
66	10.50 +	H
67-93	10.50 +	H
94- New X-Men begin	125.00 +	H
95- Death of Thunderbird	40.00 -	
96-99	* 28.00 -	
96, 99- 30¢ variants, NOT RARE!	35.00	
100- Old X-Men vs. New X-Men	32.00 -	
101- Phoenix origin concludes	30.00 -	
102-107	15.00 -	
108- 1st Byrne X-Men	30.00 -	
109- 1st Vindicator	25.00 -	
110, 111	15.00 -	
112-119	12.00 -	
120- 1st Alpha Flight	28.00	H
121- Alpha Flight	30.00	H
122-128	11.00 -	
129- 1st app. Kitty Pryde	13.00 -	
130- 1st app. Dazzler by Byrne	14.00	
131, 132, 134, 135	10.00	
133- Wolverine app.	12.00 +	
136, 138	8.50	
137- Phoenix dies, double size	11.00	
139- Wolverine's new costume	13.00	
140- Alpha Flight app.	18.00 +	H
141	10.50 +	H
142, 143 143-Last Byrne issue	8.50 +	H
144-150	5.50 +	H
151-157, 159-164	3.70 +	H
158- 1st app. Rogue in X-Men	4.25 +	H
165- Paul Smith art	5.50 +	H
166- Double size, Paul Smith art	4.25 +	H
167-170	3.20 +	H
171- Rogue joins The X-Men, see Avengers Annual 10	8.00 +	H
172-174	3.20 +	H
175- Double size	4.00 +	H
176-185	2.50 +	H
186- Double size	3.50 +	H
187-192, 194-199	2.50 +	H
193- Double size, special 100th app. New X-Men	4.00 +	H
200- Double size	4.00 +	H
201-209	2.50 +	H
210-213 Mutant Massacre	4.00 +	H
214-224	1.60 +	H
225-227 Fall Of The Mutants	3.20 +	H
228-241	1.50	H
242- Double size, Inferno tie-in	2.00	H
243-250	1.00	H
Annual 3	7.50	H
Annual 4	6.00	H
Annual 5	4.25	H
Annual 6	3.00	H
Annual 7	2.50	H
Annual 8	2.50	H
Annual 9- Art Adams art	7.00 +	H
Annual 10- Art Adams art	7.00 +	H
Annual 11	2.00	H
Annual 12 (1988) Evolutionary War	3.00 +	H
Annual 13 (89) Atlantis Attacks	2.00	H
Giant Size 1- 1st app. New X Men	95.00	H
Giant Size 2	20.00	H
Special 1	20.00	H
Special 2	20.00	H
Title Value:	5307.85	

X-MEN/ALPHA FLIGHT
Jan, 1986 - No. 2, Jan, 1986 (mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group

1, 2	3.50	H
Title Value	7.00	

X-MEN AND THE MICRONAUTS, THE
Jan, 1984 - No. 4, April, 1984 (mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group

1-4	1.50
Title Value	6.00

X-MEN CLASSICS
Dec, 1983 - No. 3, 1984 ($2.00, Baxter paper)
Marvel Comics Group

1-3	3.00
Title Value	9.00

X-MEN VS. THE AVENGERS
Apr, 1987 No. 4, July 1987 (1.50, color, mini-series)
Marvel Comics Group

1	3.50
2-4	2.50
Title Value	11.00

X-TERMINATORS
Oct, 1988-No 4, Jan 1989 (1.00, color, mini-series)
Marvel Comics

1	3.00 +
2	1.75 +
3, 4	1.25 +
Title Value	7.25

X-THIEVES (See Aristocratic...)
Fictioneer Books Ltd - Cover Price

XYR - See Eclipse Graphic Album

YAKUZA
(Eternity Comics)- [Cover Price]

YIN FEI THE CHINESE NINJA
Leung Publications - Cover Price

YOUNG ALL-STARS
June, 1987-No 31, (1.00, color)
DC Comics

1	4.00
2, 3	2.00
4-31	1.75 +
Annual 1 (2.00, 1988)	2.00
Title Value	59.00

YOUNG MASTER
Nov 1987-Present (1.75, B&W)
New Comics Group

1-4	2.00
Title Value	8.00

ZATANNA SPECIAL
DC Comics - Cover Price

ZELL, SWORDANCER
(Thoughts And Images)- [Cover Price]

ZEN INTERGALACTIC NINJA
(Stern & Cota)- [Cover Price]

ZERO PATROL
Continuity Comics Cover Price

ZOLASTRAYA AND THE BARD
(Twilight Twins Productions)- [Cover Price]

ZOONIVERSE
Eclipse Comics - Cover Price

ZOT!
April, 1984-No. 10 July 1985
No. 11, Jan. 1987 - Present
Eclipse Comics (2.00 B&W)

1	7.00
2, 3	3.75
4-10 10- Last color issue	2.00
11-29 B&W issues	2.00
Title Value:	66.50

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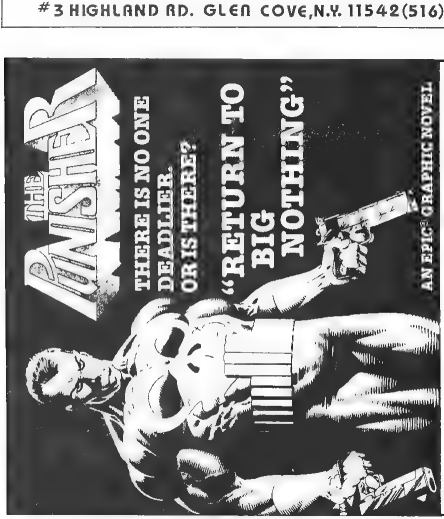

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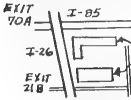

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For between conditions: fair= 50% of Good
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NM= VF x 1.3

12 COVER PRICE

Amaz. Fantasy
15 120 / 500 / 900 / 2000
Amaz. Spiderman
1 100 / 400 / 650 / 1600
2 45 / 120 / 200 / 450
3 25 / 70 / 120 / 280
4 20 / 50 / 110 / 230
5,6 17 / 40 / 80 / 170
7-10 11 / 30 / 60 / 120
11-13,15 7 / 20 / 38 / 75
14 8 / 22 / 42 / 90
16-20 5 / 12 / 25 / 45
129 7 / 22 / 45 / 70
Avengers
1 50 / 140 / 270 / 650
2 20 / 50 / 90 / 190
3 12 / 40 / 70 / 125
4 22 / 55 / 105 / 205
5 8 / 20 / 40 / 75
6-10 6 / 14 / 30 / 50
11-15 3.50 / 9 / 20 / 32
Daredevil
1 30 / 80 / 155 / 300
2 12 / 34 / 70 / 115
3 8 / 21 / 40 / 70
Fantastic Four
1 115 / 450 / 800 / 2000
2 55 / 135 / 255 / 510
3 45 / 110 / 200 / 400
4 35 / 85 / 160 / 30
5 25 / 65 / 125 / 235
6-10 17 / 42 / 80 / 135
11 12 / 31 / 60 / 100
12 11 / 28 / 53 / 90
13 9 / 23 / 44 / 75
14-20 7 / 18 / 33 / 56

Incredible Hulk
1 65 / 170 / 320 / 680
2 25 / 70 / 125 / 210
3 18 / 50 / 90 / 150
4-6 15 / 40 / 70 / 120
181 7 / 23 / 43 / 75
Ironman
1 8 / 25 / 45 / 85
Tales of Suspense
39 50 / 125 / 235 / 600
Tales to Astonish
27 60 / 150 / 285 /575
Journey into Mystery
83 55 / 140 / 260 / 600
X-Men
1 70 / 210 / 400 / 800
2 30 / 92 / 170 / 265
3 15 / 45 / 80 / 120
4 12 / 36 / 60 / 92
5 10 / 30 / 50 / 78
6-10 7 / 22 / 40 / 57
Some DC titles:
Adventure
247 130 / 390 / 700 / 1500
Brave & the Bold
28 65 / 200 / 350 / 780
29,30 27 / 85 / 145 / 250
Green Lantern
1 45 / 120 / 250 / 600
J.L.A.
1 70 / 170 / 365 / 800
Showcase
4 150 / 450 / 800 / 2300
22 58 / 165 / 300 / 600
34 6 / 20 / 70 / 85

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Amazing Spiderman 11-13,15	100.00	Flash 123	250.00
Amazing Spiderman 50	50.00	Flash 129	75.00
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Batman 171	40.00	Iron Man 1	125.00
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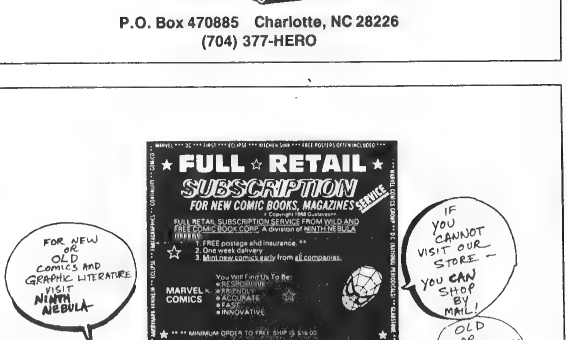
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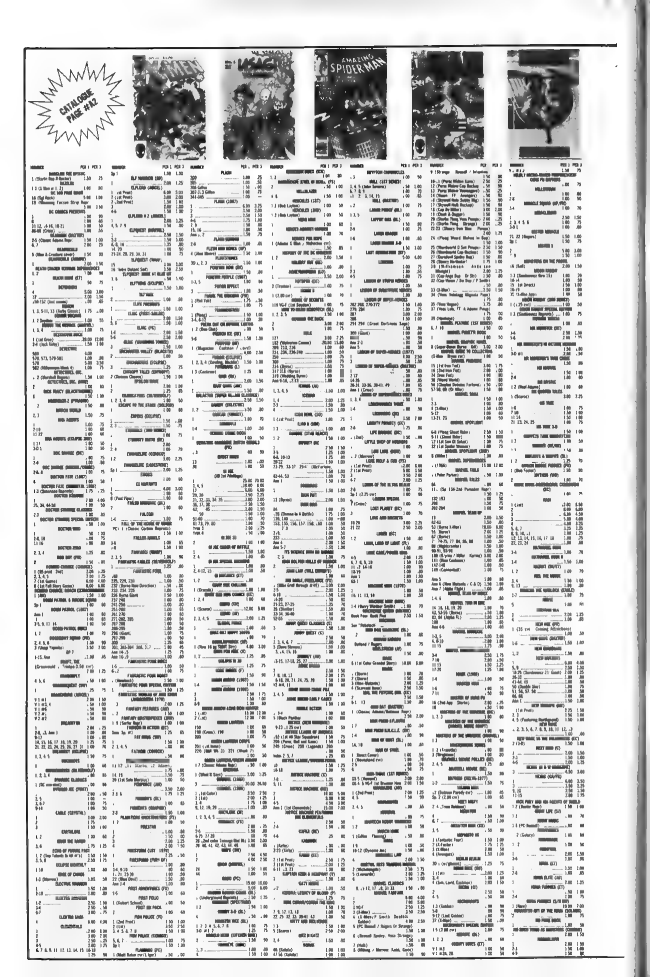
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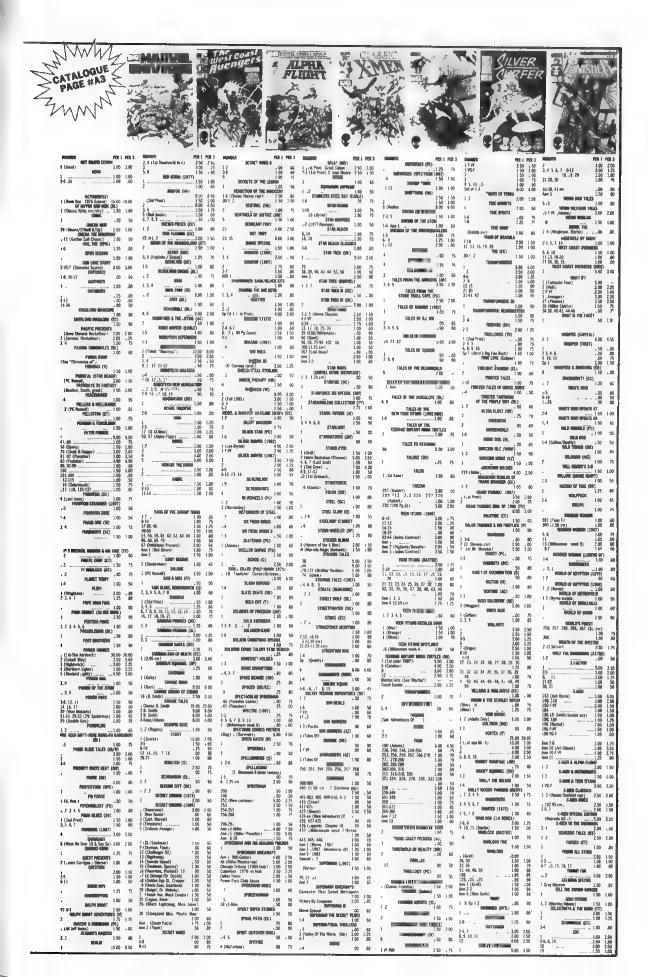
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CHANGE PAGE 4-1

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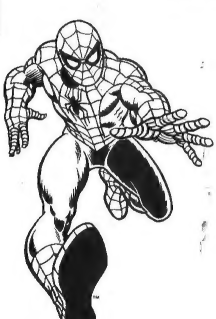

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